

ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS  
COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO

ASSEMBLY, No. 315

**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**

DATED: FEBRUARY 7, 2022

The Assembly Military and Veterans' Affairs Committee reports favorably Assembly Bill No. 315.

This bill requires professional and occupational boards to issue a license, certificate, or certification to any applicant who received a license and equivalent training, education, or experience while serving or after serving as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States. The person applying for the license, certificate, or certification could have obtained a license and training, education, or experience during or outside of the person's military service.

The bill requires a professional and occupational board to issue a license, certificate, or certification to an applicant who presents evidence to the board that: (1) the applicant was honorably discharged from active military service; (2) the applicant's license, certificate, or certification is in good standing in another jurisdiction; and (3) the applicant complies with all other requirements for licensure, including a requirement for examination.

The bill also requires each board to provide methods of evaluating equivalent training, education, or experience obtained towards meeting the requirements for the issuance of a license, certificate, or certification. However, no method of evaluation shall operate in such a manner as to require the same number of hours of experience by the applicant.

This bill provides reciprocity for veterans with a license, certificate, or certification issued by another jurisdiction. Veterans with these credentials face barriers to entering the job market since occupational licenses are not necessarily portable due to different standards required by individual states; however, often times, a veteran's training, education, and experience as a licensed professional in another state is valuable and transferable. This bill would help veterans licensed in another jurisdiction to obtain their license in New Jersey and more easily find or keep employment in this State.

This bill was pre-filed for introduction in the 2022-2023 session pending technical review. As reported, the bill includes the changes required by technical review, which has been performed.