



1 Barriers", and the National Council of State Board of Nursing's Revised 2016 report, which  
2 demonstrates and recommends one such path to how military branches' training requirements  
3 can be quantified, compared and credited so as to shorten a veteran medic's pathway to a  
4 licensed practical nurse or vocational nurse; and

5 WHEREAS, this model could be reviewed and followed by Louisiana licensing  
6 boards seeking to shorten the path for military-trained healthcare professionals seeking to  
7 practice lawfully as licensed practical nurses, physician's assistants, registered nurses,  
8 physical therapists, or any number of other civilian professions; and

9 WHEREAS, in 2012, the Louisiana Legislature enacted R.S. 37:3651 which  
10 currently requires professional or occupational licensing boards to issue a license to  
11 military-trained applicants when the military occupational specialty they performed "is  
12 substantially equivalent to or exceeds the educational, examination, experience and other  
13 requirements for licensure"; and

14 WHEREAS, veterans nevertheless still frequently encounter hurdles, and sometimes  
15 the complete inability, to convert their military healthcare certifications and experience to  
16 a license to practice lawfully in Louisiana; and

17 WHEREAS, military-trained healthcare professionals would provide invaluable  
18 healthcare services particularly in rural areas of Louisiana, where there is a shortage of  
19 primary care healthcare providers.

20 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby  
21 authorize and request the House and Senate committees on health and welfare to meet and  
22 function as a joint committee to study certain healthcare occupational licensing boards  
23 timely and cost effective pathways for military veterans with medical training to practice  
24 lawfully in civilian healthcare jobs in Louisiana.

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the joint committee shall solicit input and  
26 recommendations from the following boards on what steps each board has taken to provide  
27 credit for prior military training and certifications in their licensing process:

- 28 (1) Louisiana State Board of Dentistry.
- 29 (2) Louisiana Emergency Medical Services Certification Commission.
- 30 (3) Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners.

