HLS 18RS-3382 ORIGINAL

2018 Regular Session

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HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 140

BY REPRESENTATIVES GAINES, ARMES, STEVE CARTER, COX, CREWS, CROMER, FOIL, GISCLAIR, HAZEL, HOWARD, AND TERRY LANDRY

MILITARY AFFAIRS: Provides relative to the issuance of occupational or professional licenses to military families in the state

A RESOLUTION

2	To urge and request that all state professional and occupational licensing boards review and
3	implement existing Louisiana law as it relates to the issuance of occupational or
4	professional licenses to military families in the state.
5	WHEREAS, military spending in Louisiana accounts for a total annual economic
6	impact of \$7.7 billion that supports over 77,000 employees; and
7	WHEREAS, focusing on the mission is always the priority of our military service
8	members, and one of the factors that military families cite most frequently as a drawback to
9	military service is the ability of spouses to obtain jobs and sustain careers; and
10	WHEREAS, our military families relocate frequently and facilitating the ability of
11	military spouses to continue their work in a new place of residence without delay or
12	additional expense is important to the state's efforts to grow and maintain its military
13	communities; and
14	WHEREAS, spouses in professionally licensed fields such as medical, legal,
15	engineering, education, accounting, or the cosmetic arts face challenges due to delays or cost
16	of transferring licenses to a new state or jurisdiction, and eliminating or mitigating these
17	barriers will improve quality of life for our military families and ease the stress of
18	transferring duty stations with consideration for long-term career implications; and
19	WHEREAS, R.S. 37:3651(C) requires a professional or occupational licensing board
20	to "issue a license, certification, or registration to a military spouse to allow a military

spouse to lawfully practice" his or her occupation in Louisiana if the military spouse meets certain criteria: and

WHEREAS, R.S. 37:3651 also provides that when a military spouse is licensed in another state and that state's licensure standards are "substantially equivalent" to Louisiana standards, professional and occupational licensing boards are required to issue a temporary practice permit to the military spouse while he or she is satisfying any remaining requirements of Louisiana law; and

WHEREAS, Governor John Bel Edwards issued a letter on January 4, 2018, to over fifty of the state's professional licensing boards urging them to review and implement these existing provisions of Louisiana law as they relate to military spouses seeking a professional license in Louisiana upon relocation.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby urge and request that all Louisiana state professional or occupational licensing boards review and implement these existing provisions of R.S. 37:3651 and issue a license, certification, or registration to a military-trained applicant or military spouse to allow the applicant to lawfully practice the applicant's occupation in this state.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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2018 Regular Session

Gaines

Requests that all La. state professional or occupational licensing boards follow the true intent and requirements of <u>present law</u> (R.S. 37:3651) regarding the issuance of professional or occupational licenses, certificates, or registration to a military-trained applicant or military spouse.