

HOUSE No. 3648

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

Linda Dean Campbell

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to military spouse licensure portability, education and enrollment of dependents.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:	DATE ADDED:
<i>Linda Dean Campbell</i>	<i>15th Essex</i>	<i>2/19/2021</i>
<i>Natalie M. Blais</i>	<i>1st Franklin</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Angelo J. Puppolo, Jr.</i>	<i>12th Hampden</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Christopher Hendricks</i>	<i>11th Bristol</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>David Allen Robertson</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Kate Lipper-Garabedian</i>	<i>32nd Middlesex</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Susannah M. Whipps</i>	<i>2nd Franklin</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Richard M. Haggerty</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Thomas P. Walsh</i>	<i>12th Essex</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Tricia Farley-Bouvier</i>	<i>3rd Berkshire</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Steven G. Xiarhos</i>	<i>5th Barnstable</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Susan Williams Gifford</i>	<i>2nd Plymouth</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Carole A. Fiola</i>	<i>6th Bristol</i>	<i>2/26/2021</i>
<i>Paul F. Tucker</i>	<i>7th Essex</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Kimberly N. Ferguson</i>	<i>1st Worcester</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Steven S. Howitt</i>	<i>4th Bristol</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Kathleen R. LaNatra</i>	<i>12th Plymouth</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Michael J. Soter</i>	<i>8th Worcester</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>

<i>Joseph W. McGonagle, Jr.</i>	<i>28th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/8/2021</i>
<i>Bradley H. Jones, Jr.</i>	<i>20th Middlesex</i>	<i>3/10/2021</i>
<i>Hannah Kane</i>	<i>11th Worcester</i>	<i>3/17/2021</i>

HOUSE No. 3648

By Mrs. Campbell of Methuen, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 3648) of Linda Dean Campbell and others relative to military spouse licensure portability, education and enrollment of dependents. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act relative to military spouse licensure portability, education and enrollment of dependents.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Paragraph (d) of section 1B of chapter 112 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the words:- “if, in the
3 opinion of the department, the requirements for licensure or certification of such other state are
4 substantially equivalent to the requirements for licensure or certification in the commonwealth”.

5 SECTION 2. Paragraph (e) of section 1B of chapter 112 of the General Laws, as
6 appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, is hereby amended by striking out the words:- “if, in the
7 opinion of the department, the requirements for licensure or certification of such other state are
8 substantially equivalent to the requirements for licensure or certification in the commonwealth”.

9 SECTION 3. Chapter 33 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition,
10 is hereby amended by inserting after section 139 the following section entitled “Expedited
11 Licensure”:-

12 Section 140. No later than 15 days following receipt of an application from (i) any person
13 who is a member of the armed forces or (ii) the spouse of any person who is a member of the
14 armed forces, the commissioner of the division of professional licensure and each of the boards
15 of registration and examination under the commissioner’s supervision shall either issue a license
16 or notify an applicant when the applicant’s military training or experience does not satisfy the
17 requirements for licensure and specify the criteria or requirements that the applicant failed to
18 meet and the basis for that determination.

19 SECTION 4. Section 38G of chapter 71, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition, is
20 hereby amended by inserting after the paragraph beginning with the word "Board" in line 3 the
21 following paragraph:-

22 “Military spouse certificate”, a license to teach which the commissioner of education
23 shall issue to a person who is the spouse of a service member, and the spouse and service
24 member reside in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts as a result of the service member’s
25 service in the U.S. armed forces, a Reserve unit of the U.S. armed forces, or the National Guard
26 of any state, when such spouse holds a valid teaching certificate from another state in good
27 standing but has not satisfied the certification testing requirements contained in this section. The
28 military spouse certificate shall be valid for at least three years. Service under a military spouse
29 certificate shall be counted as service in acquiring professional teacher status, contingent upon
30 the teacher passing the applicable certification tests.

31 SECTION 5. Chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition,
32 is hereby amended by inserting after section 97 the following section entitled “Purple Star
33 Campus”:-

34 Section 98. (a) In this section, “military-connected student” shall mean a student who is a
35 dependent of:

36 (1) a current or former member of:

37 (A) the United States military serving in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or
38 Coast Guard on active duty;

39 (B) Massachusetts National Guard; or

40 (C) a reserve force of the United States military; or

41 (D) a member of a military or reserve force described by Subdivision (A), (B), or (C)
42 who was killed in the line of duty.

43 (b) The department shall designate a school district campus as a Purple Star Campus if
44 the campus applies and qualifies for the designation under this section.

45 (c) To qualify as a Purple Star Campus, a campus must:

46 (1) designate a staff member as a military liaison, whose duties include:

47 (A) identifying military-connected students enrolled at the campus;

48 (B) serving as the point of contact between the campus and military-connected students
49 and their families;

50 (C) determining appropriate campus services available to military-connected students;

51 and

52 (D) assisting in coordinating campus programs relevant to military-connected students;

53 (2) maintain on the campus Internet website an easily accessible web page that includes
54 resources for military-connected students and their families, including information regarding:

55 (A) relocation to, enrollment at, registration at, and transferring records to the campus;

56 (B) academic planning, course sequences, and advanced classes available at the campus;

57 and

58 (C) counseling and other support services available for military-connected students

59 enrolled at the campus;

60 (3) maintain a transition program led by students, where appropriate, that assists military-

61 connected students in transitioning into the campus;

62 (4) offer professional development for staff members on issues related to military-

63 connected students; and

64 (5) offer at least one of the following initiatives:

65 (A) a resolution showing support for military-connected students and their families;

66 (B) recognition of the Month of the Military Child or Military Family Month with

67 relevant events hosted by the campus; or

68 (C) a partnership with a local military installation that provides opportunities for active

69 duty military members to volunteer at the campus, speak at an assembly, or host a field trip.

70 (D) To comply with a requirement under Subsection (c)(2), (4), or (5), a school district

71 campus may partner with the district to provide:

72 (1) an Internet website web page required under Subsection (c)(2) if the campus does not
73 have an Internet website;

74 (2) professional development required under Subsection (c)(4); or

75 (3) an initiative required under Subsection (c)(5).

76 (E) The department shall promulgate rules and regulations as necessary to administer this
77 section.

78 SECTION 6. Section 94 of chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018
79 Official Edition, is hereby amended by inserting after paragraph (t) the following paragraph:-

80 (u) For the purposes of this chapter:

81 (1) a dependent of a member of the United States Armed Forces who has received orders
82 to relocate in this state; or

83 (2) a dependent of a member of the United States Armed Forces who was previously
84 enrolled in high school in this state and does not reside in this state due to military deployment or
85 transfer;

86 shall be considered a resident of this state and the applicable local school system.

87 SECTION 7. Chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official Edition,
88 is hereby further amended by inserting after section 6 the following section:-

89 Section 6B. ADMISSION OF STUDENTS WHO ARE MILITARY DEPENDENTS.

90 If one or both of a pupil's parents or guardians are being relocated to the State under
91 military orders, as a result of the parents or guardians' service in the U.S. armed forces, a Reserve
92 unit of the U.S. armed forces, or the National Guard of any state, a school district shall allow
93 remote registration of the student and shall not require the parent or legal guardian of the student
94 or the student himself or herself to physically appear at a location within the district to register
95 the student. Proof of required residency shall not be required at the time of the remote
96 registration but shall be required within fourteen days of the student's attendance in the school
97 district.

98 SECTION 8. Subsection (t) of section 9 of chapter 15A of the General Laws is hereby
99 amended by striking out subsection (t) and inserting in place thereof the following subsection:-

100 (t) issue regulations defining resident of the commonwealth and proof of the same for the
101 purpose of admission and tuition expenses of public institutions of higher education and prepare
102 uniform proofs of residence to be used by all public institutions; provided, however, that insofar
103 as the Massachusetts Maritime Academy is designated a regional maritime academy by the
104 United States maritime administration, residents of the states comprising the designated region
105 and attending the Massachusetts Maritime Academy shall be considered Massachusetts residents
106 for the purposes of admission and tuition; and, that insofar as any person who is (i) a member of
107 the armed forces and stationed in this state pursuant to military orders, (ii) the spouse of any
108 person who is a member of the armed forces and stationed in this state pursuant to military
109 orders, or (iii) an unemancipated person whose parent is a member of the armed forces and
110 stationed in this state pursuant to military orders, shall be considered Massachusetts residents for
111 the purposes of admission and tuition.

112 SECTION 9. Chapter 15A of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2018 Official
113 Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following section entitled “In-state Tuition
114 Continuity”:-

115 Section 19 1/3. IN-STATE TUITION CONTINUITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE
116 ARMED FORCES AND THEIR DEPENDENTS.

117 Any person who is a member of the armed forces and stationed in this state pursuant to
118 military orders shall be entitled to classification as an in-state student. The person, (i) while in
119 residence after the his or her acceptance for matriculation at a constituent unit of the state system
120 of higher education in a course of study leading to an associate, bachelor or advanced degree,
121 shall not lose classification as an in-state student if the person is thereafter transferred on military
122 orders or retires.

123 The spouse of any person who is a member of the armed forces and stationed in this state
124 pursuant to military orders shall be entitled to classification as an in-state student. The spouse,
125 while in residence after the spouse's acceptance for matriculation at a constituent unit of the state
126 system of higher education in a course of study leading to an associate, bachelor or advanced
127 degree, shall not lose classification as an in-state student if the member of the armed forces is
128 thereafter transferred on military orders or retires.

129 An unemancipated person whose parent is a member of the armed forces and stationed in
130 this state pursuant to military orders shall be entitled to classification as an in-state student. The
131 student, (i) while in continuous attendance toward the degree for which the student is currently
132 enrolled, or (ii) while in residence after his or her acceptance for matriculation at a constituent
133 unit of the state system of higher education in a course of study leading to an associate, bachelor

134 or advanced degree, shall not lose classification as an in-state student if his or her parent is
135 thereafter transferred on military orders or retires.

136 SECTION 10. This act shall take effect immediately.