
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 796 Session of
2015

INTRODUCED BY SMITH, GREENLEAF, BREWSTER, VOGEL, BLAKE, COSTA,
TEPLITZ, WILEY, YUDICHAK, BAKER, HUGHES, VULAKOVICH, FARNESE,
TARTAGLIONE, RAFFERTY, WILLIAMS AND BROWNE, MAY 1, 2015

REFERRED TO CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
MAY 1, 2015

AN ACT

1 Providing for portability of professional and occupational
2 licenses for military spouses.

3 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
4 hereby enacts as follows:

5 Section 1. Short title.

6 This act shall be known and may be cited as the Military
7 Spouse License Portability Act.

8 Section 2. Definitions.

9 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
10 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
11 context clearly indicates otherwise:

12 "Licensing board." A professional or occupational licensing
13 board or commission of this Commonwealth, including:

14 (1) Navigation Commission for the Delaware River and its
15 Navigable Tributaries.

16 (2) State Architects Licensure Board.

17 (3) State Board of Accountancy.

- 1 (4) State Board of Auctioneer Examiners.
- 2 (5) State Board of Barber Examiners.
- 3 (6) State Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers.
- 4 (7) State Board of Chiropractic.
- 5 (8) State Board of Cosmetology.
- 6 (9) State Board of Crane Operators.
- 7 (10) State Board of Dentistry.
- 8 (11) State Board of Examiners of Nursing Home
9 Administrators.
- 10 (12) State Board of Funeral Directors.
- 11 (13) State Board of Landscape Architects.
- 12 (14) State Board of Massage Therapy.
- 13 (15) State Board of Medicine.
- 14 (16) State Board of Nursing.
- 15 (17) State Board of Occupational Therapy Education and
16 Licensure.
- 17 (18) State Board of Optometry.
- 18 (19) State Board of Osteopathic Medicine.
- 19 (20) State Board of Pharmacy.
- 20 (21) State Board of Physical Therapy.
- 21 (22) State Board of Podiatry.
- 22 (23) State Board of Psychology.
- 23 (24) State Board of Social Workers, Marriage and Family
24 Therapists and Professional Counselors.
- 25 (25) State Board of Examiners in Speech-Language and
26 Hearing.
- 27 (26) State Board of Vehicle Manufacturers, Dealers and
28 Salespersons.
- 29 (27) State Board of Veterinary Medicine.
- 30 (28) State Real Estate Commission.

1 (29) State Registration Board for Professional
2 Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists.

3 "Military spouse." A person who is married to a member of
4 the armed forces of the United States or a reserve component of
5 the armed forces of the United States under the laws of the
6 jurisdiction where the marriage took place.

7 Section 3. Requirements for license.

8 (a) General rule.--Notwithstanding any other law, a
9 licensing board shall issue a license to a military spouse to
10 allow the military spouse to practice the military spouse's
11 profession or occupation in this Commonwealth if, upon
12 application to the licensing board, the military spouse
13 satisfies all of the following conditions:

14 (1) Holds a current license, certificate, registration
15 or permit from another state, and that state's requirements
16 are substantially equivalent to or exceed the requirements
17 for a license in this Commonwealth.

18 (2) Demonstrates competency in the profession or
19 occupation through methods determined by the licensing board,
20 including having completed continuing education units or
21 having experience in the profession or occupation for at
22 least two of the five years preceding the date of the
23 application under this act.

24 (3) Has not committed any act in any state that would
25 have constituted grounds for refusal, suspension or
26 revocation of a license to practice that profession or
27 occupation in this Commonwealth at the time the act was
28 committed.

29 (4) Is in good standing and has not been disciplined by
30 the jurisdiction that issued the license.

1 (5) Pays any fees required by the licensing board from
2 which the applicant is seeking a license.

3 (b) Rights and obligations.--A military spouse who is not a
4 resident of this Commonwealth and who is issued a license under
5 this act shall have the same rights and obligations as a
6 resident of this Commonwealth who is issued the same type of
7 license.

8 Section 4. Provisional license.

9 (a) General rule.--Notwithstanding any other law, a
10 licensing board may issue a provisional license to a military
11 spouse who is licensed, certified, registered or issued a permit
12 in another state while the military spouse is satisfying certain
13 requirements, as determined by the licensing board, for a
14 license in this Commonwealth under section 3.

15 (b) Limited period.--A military spouse may practice under a
16 provisional license issued under subsection (a) until any of the
17 following occurs:

18 (1) A license is granted or denied by the licensing
19 board under section 3.

20 (2) The provisional license expires.

21 (3) The holder of a provisional license fails to comply
22 with its terms.

23 Section 5. Alternative procedure for licensure.

24 This act may not prohibit a military spouse from proceeding
25 under other licensure requirements established by a licensing
26 board.

27 Section 6. Rules and regulations.

28 A licensing board may adopt rules or regulations necessary to
29 implement this act.

30 Section 7. Effective date.

1 This act shall take effect in 60 days.