

**SENATE, No. 2882**

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**STATE OF NEW JERSEY**  
**220th LEGISLATURE**

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INTRODUCED JUNE 20, 2022

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator VINCENT J. POLISTINA**

**District 2 (Atlantic)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Requires professional boards to issue licenses under certain circumstances to veterans with credentials in good standing from another jurisdiction.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



1 AN ACT concerning professional and occupational licenses and  
2 supplementing P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-14 et seq.).

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
5 of New Jersey:

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7 1. a. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the  
8 contrary, a professional or occupational board designated in section  
9 2 of P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-15) that issues a professional or  
10 occupational license, certificate of registration, or certification for  
11 which professional training, education, or experience is required  
12 shall issue the license, certificate of registration, or certification to  
13 an applicant with a license and equivalent training, education, and  
14 experience received while serving or after serving as a member of  
15 the Armed Forces of the United States, regardless of whether the  
16 license, training, education, or experience was obtained during or  
17 outside the applicant's service with the Armed Forces.

18 b. A professional or occupational board shall issue a license,  
19 certificate, or certification to an applicant who presents evidence to  
20 the board that:

21 (1) the applicant has been honorably discharged from active  
22 military service; and

23 (2) the applicant's license, certificate, or certification is in good  
24 standing in another jurisdiction; and

25 (3) the applicant complies with all other requirements for  
26 licensure, including, without limitation, any requirement for  
27 examination.

28 c. A professional or occupational board may require an  
29 applicant to provide any documentation of the applicant's training,  
30 education, or experience as it deems necessary by the board to  
31 determine eligibility.

32 d. A professional or occupational board shall provide methods  
33 of evaluating equivalent training, education, or experience obtained  
34 towards meeting the requirements for the issuance of a license,  
35 certificate, or certification pursuant to this section; provided  
36 however that no method of evaluating experience from another  
37 jurisdiction shall operate in such a manner as to require the same  
38 number of hours of experience by the applicant.

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40 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the second month  
41 next following the date of enactment, except that a board may take  
42 any anticipatory administrative action in advance of that date as  
43 shall be necessary for the implementation of this act.

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STATEMENT

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48 This bill requires professional and occupational boards to issue a  
49 license, certificate, or certification to any applicant who received a

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1 license and equivalent training, education, or experience while  
2 serving or after serving as a member of the Armed Forces of the  
3 United States. The person applying for the license, certificate, or  
4 certification could have obtained a license and training, education,  
5 or experience during or outside of the person's military service.

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

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

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