

SESSION OF 2013

**CONFERENCE COMMITTEE REPORT BRIEF  
HOUSE BILL NO. 2078**

As Agreed to April 3, 2013

**Brief\***

HB 2078 would enact new law and amend existing requirements for licensing bodies and licensure for military service members, and also would amend current law regarding military experience for the licensing of practical nurses and emergency medical technicians.

***Licensing Bodies and Licensure for Military Service  
Members***

Among the provisions relating to licensing bodies and licensure for military service members, the bill would:

- Require a licensing body to accept from an applicant with an honorable discharge (or a general discharge under honorable conditions) the education, training, or service completed in military service toward any educational requirements for certification or licensure;
- Require the education, training, or service completed in the military to be substantially equivalent to the existing educational requirement of such licensure or certification;
- Allow the licensing body to require documentation related to the education, training, or service;

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- Allow a licensing board to accept education, training, or service if a person was separated from military service with a general discharge under honorable conditions;
- Establish new definitions in existing law;
- Allow a licensing body to issue a temporary permit so the military service member may lawfully practice their occupation when the military service member's current license is not equivalent to the standards of the licensing body. During this time, the military service member would complete any necessary requirements;
- Allow a licensing board to grant certification, licensure, or a temporary permit to any person who meets the necessary requirements and was separated from military service with a general discharge under honorable conditions; and
- Permit licensing bodies to adopt rules and regulations.

The bill would define, in the new law created by the bill, "applicant" as "a person who entered into military service and separated from such military service with an honorable discharge or a general discharge under honorable conditions." The bill also would define the terms "licensing body" and "military service." Under the new requirements established by the bill, a "licensing body" would not include the Kansas State Board of Nursing and the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services.

Additionally, the new requirements would not apply to practice of law or the regulation of attorneys.

***Practical or Professional Nursing and Emergency  
Medical Technician Experience, U.S. Military***

The bill would authorize the Board of Nursing to waive a requirement that an applicant graduate from an approved school of practical or professional nursing if the applicant attained a passing score on the National Council Licensure Examination for Practical Nurses and provided evidence of practical nursing experience within the U.S. military.

The applicant would need to have separated from military service with an honorable discharge or under honorable conditions.

The bill also would require the granting of an Attendant's Certificate to an applicant who holds a current and active certification with the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians and who completed emergency medical technician training as a member of the U.S. military. For these provisions to apply, the applicant would need to have received an honorable discharge or have been separated under honorable conditions.

**Conference Committee Action**

The Conference Committee agreed to accept the Senate amendments to the bill. The Conference Committee also agreed to make technical and clarifying amendments to the bill, as well as to exempt the Kansas State Board of Nursing and the Kansas Board of Emergency Medical Services from the definition of licensing bodies in the new law regarding educational requirements for certification or licensure.

**Background**

HB 2078 was introduced by the House Committee on Veterans, Military, and Homeland Security, which held a

hearing on the bill and amended the bill to require the honorable discharge or under honorable condition discharge status.

Testimony in support of the original bill was provided by representatives of the Department of Defense, the U.S. Navy, the American Legion Department of Kansas, the Kaw Valley Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America, and the Kansas Commission on Veterans Affairs. Neutral testimony was provided by the Board of Nursing. There was no opposition testimony at the House Committee hearing

The Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare amendment was technical in nature. The amendment was recommended by the revisor.

The Senate Committee of the Whole amendment inserts provisions relating to licensing bodies and licensure for military service members (HB 2077, as amended by Senate Committee).

The fiscal note prepared by the Division of the Budget for HB 2078, as introduced, indicates passage of the bill would have no fiscal impact. The fiscal note for HB 2077, as introduced, indicates passage of the bill would have no fiscal impact as many of the licensing bodies currently allow reciprocity for licensure.

veterans; military; licensure and certification; licensing body; educational requirements

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