

By: Pickett, Moody, Guillen

H.B. No. 757

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the eligibility requirements for occupational licenses
3 issued to applicants with military experience and to military
4 spouses.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter H, Chapter 51, Occupations Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 51.4013 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 51.4013. LICENSE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR
9 APPLICANTS WITH MILITARY EXPERIENCE. (a) Notwithstanding any other
10 law, the department shall credit verified military service,
11 training, or education toward the licensing requirements, other
12 than examination requirements, for a license issued by the
13 department.

14 (b) The department shall expedite the issuance of a
15 temporary license or a license by endorsement or reciprocity to an
16 applicant who:

17 (1) has verified military experience; and

18 (2) holds a current license issued by another
19 jurisdiction that has license requirements that are substantially
20 equivalent to the license requirements of this state.

21 (c) The commission shall adopt rules necessary to implement
22 this section.

23 SECTION 2. The heading to Chapter 55, Occupations Code, is
24 amended to read as follows:

1 CHAPTER 55. LICENSE FOR [~~WHILE ON~~] MILITARY SERVICE MEMBER OR [~~DUTY~~
2 ~~AND FOR~~] MILITARY SPOUSE

3 SECTION 3. Section 55.004, Occupations Code, is amended by
4 adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

5 (d) A state agency shall adopt rules to expedite the
6 issuance of a temporary license or a license by endorsement or
7 reciprocity to an applicant who:

8 (1) is the spouse of a person serving on active duty as
9 a member of the armed forces of the United States; and

10 (2) holds a current license issued by another
11 jurisdiction that has license requirements that are substantially
12 equivalent to the license requirements of this state.

13 SECTION 4. Chapter 55, Occupations Code, is amended by
14 adding Section 55.005 to read as follows:

15 Sec. 55.005. LICENSE ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR
16 APPLICANTS WITH MILITARY EXPERIENCE. (a) Notwithstanding any other
17 law, a state agency shall credit verified military service,
18 training, or education toward the licensing requirements, other
19 than examination requirements, for a license issued by the state
20 agency.

21 (b) The state agency shall expedite the issuance of a
22 temporary license or a license by endorsement or reciprocity to an
23 applicant who:

24 (1) has verified military experience; and

25 (2) holds a current license issued by another
26 jurisdiction that has license requirements that are substantially
27 equivalent to the license requirements of this state.

1 (c) The state agency shall adopt rules necessary to
2 implement this section.

3 SECTION 5. (a) Sections 51.4013, 55.004(d), and 55.005,
4 Occupations Code, as added by this Act, apply only to an application
5 for an occupational license filed on or after May 1, 2014. An
6 application for a license filed before May 1, 2014, is governed by
7 the law in effect on the date the application was filed, and that
8 law is continued in effect for that purpose.

9 (b) The Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation shall
10 adopt rules under Section 51.4013, Occupations Code, as added by
11 this Act, and a state agency shall adopt rules under Sections
12 55.004(d) and 55.005, Occupations Code, as added by this Act, not
13 later than March 1, 2014.

14 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
15 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
16 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
17 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
18 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.