

By: Frank, Jetton, Morales of Maverick

H.B. No. 1340

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the licensing of certain military veterans as health
3 care providers to practice in underserved areas.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 155, Occupations Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 155.108 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 155.108. LICENSE FOR MILITARY VETERAN TO PRACTICE IN
8 CERTAIN AREAS. (a) In this section, "active duty" and "armed
9 forces of the United States" have the meanings assigned by Section
10 55.001.

11 (b) The board shall issue a license to practice medicine in
12 a location described by Subsection (d) to an applicant who:

13 (1) is licensed in good standing as a physician in
14 another state;

15 (2) is a veteran of the armed forces of the United
16 States who retired from or otherwise left military service not more
17 than one year before the application date for a license under this
18 section;

19 (3) was, at the time of retiring from or leaving
20 military service:

21 (A) serving on active duty in this state; and

22 (B) authorized as a physician to treat persons
23 enlisted in the armed forces of the United States or veterans; and

24 (4) has passed the Texas medical jurisprudence

1 examination.

2 (c) The board may not issue a license under this section to
3 an applicant who:

4 (1) was discharged or separated from the armed forces
5 of the United States:

6 (A) on the basis of substandard conduct; or

7 (B) for any act of misconduct or moral or
8 professional dereliction;

9 (2) holds a medical license or a license to prescribe,
10 dispense, administer, supply, or sell a controlled substance that:

11 (A) is currently under active investigation; or

12 (B) is or was subject to a disciplinary order or
13 action or to denial by another jurisdiction; or

14 (3) has been convicted of, is on deferred adjudication
15 community supervision or deferred disposition for, or is under
16 active investigation for the commission of:

17 (A) a felony; or

18 (B) a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude.

19 (d) A physician licensed under this section may practice
20 only in:

21 (1) a health professional shortage area, as defined by
22 Section 157.051; or

23 (2) a medically underserved community, as defined by
24 Section 487.201, Government Code.

25 SECTION 2. Subchapter F, Chapter 301, Occupations Code, is
26 amended by adding Section 301.262 to read as follows:

27 Sec. 301.262. LICENSE FOR MILITARY VETERAN TO PRACTICE IN

1 CERTAIN AREAS. (a) In this section, "active duty" and "armed
2 forces of the United States" have the meanings assigned by Section
3 55.001.

4 (b) The board shall issue a license to practice nursing in a
5 location described by Subsection (d) to an applicant who:

6 (1) is licensed in good standing as a nurse in another
7 state;

8 (2) is a veteran of the armed forces of the United
9 States who retired from or otherwise left military service not more
10 than one year before the application date for a license under this
11 section;

12 (3) was, at the time of retiring from or otherwise
13 leaving military service:

14 (A) serving on active duty in this state; and

15 (B) authorized as a nurse to treat persons
16 enlisted in the armed forces of the United States or veterans; and

17 (4) has passed the jurisprudence examination.

18 (c) The board may not issue a license under this section to
19 an applicant who:

20 (1) was discharged or separated from the armed forces
21 of the United States:

22 (A) on the basis of substandard conduct; or

23 (B) for any act of misconduct or moral or
24 professional dereliction;

25 (2) holds a nursing license or a license to prescribe,
26 dispense, administer, supply, or sell a controlled substance that:

27 (A) is currently under active investigation; or

1 (B) is or was subject to a disciplinary order or
2 action or to denial by another jurisdiction; or

3 (3) has been convicted of, is on deferred adjudication
4 community supervision or deferred disposition for, or is under
5 active investigation for the commission of:

6 (A) a felony; or

7 (B) a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude.

8 (d) A nurse licensed under this section may practice only
9 in:

10 (1) a health professional shortage area, as defined by
11 Section 157.051; or

12 (2) a medically underserved community, as defined by
13 Section 487.201, Government Code.

14 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.