

SB 965

RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATIONAL LICENSING.

Establishes qualifications for "nonresident military spouses" eligible for expedited procedures for professional and vocational licensing by endorsement or reciprocity, and temporary licensing. Establishes requirements for nonresident military spouses to maintain licenses and requires reporting of changes in status or circumstances that may affect licensure.



OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
(MILITARY COMMUNITY AND FAMILY POLICY)

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DoD-State Liaison Office

Chair Will Espero
Senate Committee on Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
January 30, 2013

Testimony of
Laurie Crehan, Ed.D.
Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Military Community & Family Policy
DoD-State Liaison Office

SB 965 Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing: Military Spouses

Chair Espero and members of the Public Safety, Intergovernmental and Military Affairs Committee, on behalf of the Department of Defense, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on SB 965, a bill relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing; Military Spouses. My name is Laurie Crehan. I am with the Department of Defense State Liaison Office which operates under the direction of the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, and the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy.

During the 2012 legislative session, Hawaii passed legislation that assisted military spouses, who were stationed in Hawaii and came with a license in good standing from another state, to obtain a Hawaii professional license. This policy allows military wives to get licensed and enter the workforce in a timely manner. SB 965 seeks to ensure that the spouse remains in the required status in order to benefit from this statute. We understand the concern behind the changes in SB 965. In reviewing the language, we feel the wording in Section 2 (3) may lead to some confusion. We are assuming the intent of that language is to prevent someone temporarily in Hawaii from applying for a license under this military spouse provision and not that the military member must be stationed in Hawaii for one year before the spouse can apply for a license. In order to clarify the language, we would propose something such as the following:

Whose spouse is a member in good standing in the active or a reserve component of any of the armed forces of the United States and has orders to be stationed in Hawaii issued by the United States Department of Defense that are of a duration of at least one year.

Another way of approaching the language is to say that the orders are for a *permanent change of station* which would eliminate those families in Hawaii under temporary orders. I believe either of these would clarify that section.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

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Improving the Lives of Military Members and their Families



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**PRESENTATION OF THE PROFESSIONAL AND
VOCATIONAL LICENSING DIVISION**

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY,
INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2013

Thursday, January 31, 2013
3:00 p.m.

**TESTIMONY ON SENATE BILL NO. 965, RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL AND
VOCATIONAL LICENSING.**

THE HONORABLE WILL ESPERO, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Celia Suzuki, Licensing Administrator for the Professional and Vocational Licensing Division, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department appreciates the opportunity to submit testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 965, Relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing.

The purpose of Senate Bill No. 965 is to establish clarifying qualifications for "nonresident military spouses" eligible for expedited procedures for professional and vocational licensing by endorsement or reciprocity, and temporary licensing. It also defines what a "nonresident military spouse" is. The Department agrees with the amendments to Hawaii Revised Statutes Chapter 436B.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill No. 965.

**Testimony to the Senate Committee on Public Safety,
Intergovernmental, and Military Affairs**

Thursday, January 31, 2013

3:00 PM

Conference Room 224

**RE: SENATE BILL NO. 965, RELATING TO PROFESSIONAL AND
VOCATIONAL LICENSING**

Chair Espero, Vice Chair Baker, and members of the committee.

My name is Charles Ota and I am the Vice President for Military Affairs at The Chamber of Commerce of Hawaii (The Chamber). I am here to state The Chamber's *support* of Senate Bill No. 965, relating to Professional and Vocational Licensing.

The measure establishes qualifications for "nonresident military spouses" eligible for expedited procedures for professional and vocational licensing by endorsement or reciprocity. Establishes requirements for nonresident military spouses to maintain licenses and requires reporting of changes in status or circumstances that may affect licensure.

The procedures proposed in this measure tracks with efforts by the Obama administration to simplify and expedite the employment of trained, educated and highly qualified military spouses as they accompany their service member spouse on military duty assignments.

We recommend the following amendments:

1. Under Section 1, paragraph (2) (B), revise the phrase "...pursuant to military orders issued...." to read as follows: "...pursuant to competent permanent-change-of-station (PCS) orders issued by...." This would clarify that the service member spouse's assignment to

Hawaii was a permanent change of station, not a temporary assignment of short duration.

2. Under Section 2, paragraph (3), delete "...and has been stationed in Hawaii for at least one year pursuant to military orders issued by the United States Department of Defense". The purpose of this measure is to expedite the licensing procedures rather than establish a one year wait.
3. Under Section 2, paragraph (4) be revised to read as follows: "Who possesses a current and valid photo identification card issued to the person by the United States Department of Defense; and".

In light of the above, we recommend the measure be amended accordingly.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.