

AB 107 (Salas) Licensure: Veterans and Military Spouses

POSITION: The Chamber's Defense, Veterans and Military Affairs Committee voted to SUPPORT the bill on April 7, 2021. The Policy Committee voted to SUPPORT the bill on May 11, 2021. The Board of Directors voted to SUPPORT the bill on May 27, 2021.

RATIONALE: AB 107 would expand economic opportunity for military families stationed in California by reducing barriers to employment.

STATUS: Revised April 29, 2021. Reached the Senate on June 2, 2021 and is currently in committee.

SUMMARY

Current law under AB 186 (Maienschein, 2014) creates a temporary licensure process for certain licensed professionals for military spouses. AB 107 would require boards not already subject to temporary license requirements to issue temporary licenses to military spouses assigned to a duty station in California. The bill would expand requirements to issue temporary licenses for veterans and military spouses to include any board within the Department of Consumer Affairs and require the license to be issued 30 days after receiving necessary documents.

INDUSTRY/IES IMPACTED

The bill would expand issuance of temporary licenses and may increase staffing in the following industries: Veterinary services, dental industry, pharmaceuticals, cosmetology, occupational therapy, psychological services, accounting services.

SUPPORTERS

- United States Department of Defense
- California Defense Community Alliance
- California Association for Health Services at Home
- San Diego Military Advisory Council
- Beale Military Liaison Council
- South Bay Aerospace Alliance
- Yuba County Supervisor, Gary Bradford

OPPONENTS

- None known

ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR

- Over one third of all military spouses work in professions that require licenses, and are often driven from the workforce after moving to a different state with new professional license requirements. This has contributed to a military spouse unemployment rate of 24%.
- Expanding military spouse licensure would reduce barriers to employment for military spouses and allow them to continue their professions in critical sectors.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION

- NA

