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HOUSE BILL NO. 937

Offered January 11, 2012

Prefiled January 11, 2012

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 1 of Title 54.1 a section numbered 54.1-118, relating to professions and occupations; expediting the issuance of licenses for spouses of military service members.*

Patrons—Lingamfelter, Anderson, Dudenhefer, Helsel, Hodges, Keam, Pogge, Stolle and Torian

Referred to Committee on General Laws

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 1 of Title 54.1 a section numbered 54.1-118 as follows:

§ 54.1-118. Expediting the issuance of licenses, etc. to spouses of military service members; temporary licenses.

A. Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary and unless an applicant is found by the Board to have engaged in any act that would constitute grounds for disciplinary action, a regulatory board within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, the Department of Health Professions, or any board named in this title shall establish procedures to expedite the issuance of a license, permit, certificate, or other document, however styled or denominated, required for the practice of any business, profession, or occupation in the Commonwealth, including the issuance of a temporary permit, to an applicant (i) holding the same or similar license, permit, certificate, or other document required for the practice of any business, profession, or occupation issued by another jurisdiction, (ii) whose spouse is the subject of a military transfer to the Commonwealth, and (iii) who left employment to accompany the applicant's spouse to Virginia, if, in the opinion of the board, the requirements for the issuance of the license, permit, certificate, or other document in such other jurisdiction are substantially equivalent to those required in the Commonwealth.

B. The provisions of this section shall apply regardless of whether a regulatory board has entered into a reciprocal agreement with the other jurisdiction pursuant to subsection B of § 54.1-103.

C. Any regulatory board may require the applicant to provide documentation it deems necessary to make a determination of substantial equivalency.

D. Any temporary permit issued pursuant to this section shall be for a limited period of time, not to exceed six months, and shall authorize the applicant to engage in the profession or occupation while completing any specific requirements that may be required in Virginia that were not required in such other jurisdiction.

INTRODUCED

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