

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 An Act to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 1 of Title 54.1 a section numbered  
3 54.1-118, relating to professions and occupations; qualifications for licensure; substantially  
4 equivalent military training and education.

5 [H 938]

6 Approved

7 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

8 **1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 1 of Title 54.1 a section numbered**  
9 **54.1-118 as follows:**

10 § 54.1-118. *Qualifications for licensure, etc.; substantially equivalent military training and education.*

11 A. *Except as provided in this section, the regulatory boards within the Department of Professional*  
12 *and Occupational Regulation, the Department of Health Professions, or any board named in this title*  
13 *shall accept the military training, education, or experience of a service member honorably discharged*  
14 *from active military service in the armed forces of the United States, to the extent that such training,*  
15 *education, or experience is substantially equivalent to the requirements established by law and*  
16 *regulations of the respective board for the issuance of any license, permit, certificate, or other*  
17 *document, however styled or denominated, required for the practice of any business, profession, or*  
18 *occupation in the Commonwealth. To the extent that the service member's military training, education,*  
19 *or experience, or portion thereof, is not deemed substantially equivalent, the respective board shall*  
20 *credit whatever portion of the military training, education, or experience that is substantially equivalent*  
21 *toward meeting the requirements for the issuance of the license, permit, certificate, or other document.*

22 *The provisions of this subsection shall not apply to the Board of Medicine in the regulation of the*  
23 *practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine. Nor shall this subsection apply to the Board of Dentistry*  
24 *in the regulation of dentists or oral and maxillofacial surgeons.*

25 B. *The Board of Medicine may accept a service member's military training, education, or experience*  
26 *as an intern or resident in an approved facility to satisfy the requirement of one year of satisfactory*  
27 *postgraduate training as an intern or resident in a hospital or health care facility, provided the*  
28 *applicant for licensure (i) has been honorably discharged from active military service in the armed*  
29 *forces of the United States, (ii) is a graduate of a Board-approved institution, (iii) has successfully*  
30 *completed all required examinations for licensure, and (iv) applies for licensure within six months of*  
31 *discharge from active military service.*

32 C. *The Board of Dentistry may accept the military training, education, or experience of a service*  
33 *member provided the applicant for licensure (i) has been honorably discharged from active military*  
34 *service in the armed forces of the United States, (ii) has been in continuous clinical practice for four of*  
35 *the six years immediately preceding the application for licensure, (iii) holds a diploma or certificate of a*  
36 *dental program accredited by the Commission on Dental Accreditation of the American Dental*  
37 *Association, and (iv) has successfully completed all required examinations for licensure. Active patient*  
38 *care in the Dental Corps of the United States armed forces, voluntary practice in a public health clinic,*  
39 *or practice in an intern or residency program may be accepted by the Board to satisfy requirements for*  
40 *licensure.*

41 D. *Any regulatory board may require the service member to provide such documentation of his*  
42 *training, education, or experience as deemed necessary by the board to determine substantial*  
43 *equivalency.*

44 E. *As used in this section, "active military service" means federally funded military duty as (i) a*  
45 *member of the armed forces of the United States on active duty pursuant to Title 10 of the United States*  
46 *Code or (ii) a member of the Virginia National Guard on active duty pursuant to either Title 10 or Title*  
47 *32 of the United States Code.*

48 **2. That the Secretary of Health and Human Resources shall report annually to the Chairmen of**  
49 **the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and**  
50 **Technology on the number of licenses or permits issued pursuant to the provisions of this act.**