

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2013

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SENATE BILL 761\*  
PROPOSED COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE S761-PCS45197-TL-47

Short Title: Credit for Military Training.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

May 15, 2014

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO ENHANCE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING  
3 OF MILITARY SERVICE MEMBERS AND VETERANS AND TO DIRECT THE  
4 BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AND THE  
5 STATE BOARD OF COMMUNITY COLLEGES TO SUBMIT A PLAN THAT WILL  
6 ENSURE THAT COLLEGE CREDITS ARE UNIFORMLY GRANTED TO STUDENTS  
7 WITH MILITARY TRAINING.

8 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

9 SECTION 1. G.S. 93B-15.1 reads as rewritten:

10 "§ 93B-15.1. Licensure for individuals with military training and experience; licensure by  
11 endorsement for military spouses; temporary license.

12 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an occupational licensing board, as  
13 defined in G.S. 93B-1, shall issue a license, certification, or registration to a military-trained  
14 applicant to allow the applicant to lawfully practice the applicant's occupation in this State if,  
15 upon application to an occupational licensing board, the applicant satisfies the following  
16 conditions:

- 17 (1) Has been awarded a military occupational specialty and has done all of the  
18 following at a level that is substantially equivalent to or exceeds the  
19 requirements for licensure, certification, or registration of the occupational  
20 licensing board from which the applicant is seeking licensure, certification,  
21 or registration in this State: completed a military program of training,  
22 completed testing or equivalent training and ~~experience as determined by the~~  
23 ~~board, experience,~~ and performed in the occupational specialty.
- 24 (2) Has engaged in the active practice of the occupation for which the person is  
25 seeking a license, certification, or permit from the occupational licensing  
26 board in this State for at least two of the five years preceding the date of the  
27 application under this section.
- 28 (3) Has not committed any act in any jurisdiction that would have constituted  
29 grounds for refusal, suspension, or revocation of a license to practice that  
30 occupation in this State at the time the act was committed.
- 31 (4) Pays any fees required by the occupational licensing board for which the  
32 applicant is seeking licensure, certification, or registration in this State.

33 (a1) No later than 30 days following receipt of an application, an occupational licensing  
34 board shall notify an applicant when the applicant's military training or experience does not  
35 satisfy the requirements for licensure, certification, or registration and shall specify the criteria



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1 or requirements that the board determined that the applicant failed to meet and the basis for that  
2 determination.

3 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an occupational licensing board, as  
4 defined in G.S. 93B-1, shall issue a license, certification, or registration to a military spouse to  
5 allow the military spouse to lawfully practice the military spouse's occupation in this State if,  
6 upon application to an occupational licensing board, the military spouse satisfies the following  
7 conditions:

8 (1) Holds a current license, certification, or registration from another  
9 jurisdiction, and that jurisdiction's requirements for licensure, certification,  
10 or registration are substantially equivalent to or exceed the requirements for  
11 licensure, certification, or registration of the occupational licensing board for  
12 which the applicant is seeking licensure, certification, or registration in this  
13 State.

14 (2) Can demonstrate competency in the occupation through methods as  
15 determined by the Board, such as having completed continuing education  
16 units or having had recent experience for at least two of the five years  
17 preceding the date of the application under this section.

18 (3) Has not committed any act in any jurisdiction that would have constituted  
19 grounds for refusal, suspension, or revocation of a license to practice that  
20 occupation in this State at the time the act was committed.

21 (4) Is in good standing and has not been disciplined by the agency that had  
22 jurisdiction to issue the license, certification, or permit.

23 (5) Pays any fees required by the occupational licensing board for which the  
24 applicant is seeking licensure, certification, or registration in this State.

25 (c) All relevant experience of a military service member in the discharge of official  
26 duties or, for a military spouse, all relevant experience, including full-time and part-time  
27 experience, regardless of whether in a paid or volunteer capacity, shall be credited in the  
28 calculation of years of practice in an occupation as required under subsection (a) or (b) of this  
29 section.

30 (c1) Each occupational licensing board shall publish a document that lists the specific  
31 criteria or requirements for licensure, registration, or certification by the board, with a  
32 description of the criteria or requirements that are satisfied by military training or experience as  
33 provided in this section, and any necessary documentation needed for obtaining the credit or  
34 satisfying the requirement. The information required by this subsection shall be published on  
35 the occupational licensing board's Web site and the Web site of the North Carolina Division of  
36 Veterans Affairs.

37 ...."

38 **SECTION 2.** Each occupational licensing board shall contact training offices at  
39 military installations or any other federal offices that provide information on military  
40 occupational specialties and training for the purpose of (i) acquiring information necessary for  
41 an adequate understanding of military training and job requirements and (ii) assisting in  
42 determining the applicability and correlation of military training and experience to the criteria  
43 and requirements for licensure, certification, or registration. No later than September 1, 2014,  
44 each occupational licensing board shall submit a report to the cochairs of the Legislative  
45 Research Commission Study Committee on Civilian Credit for Military Training and State  
46 Adjutant Selection Criteria with the status of the document required by Section 1 of this act and  
47 the results of their consultation with military training officials as required by this section.

48 **SECTION 3.** The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina and the  
49 State Board of Community Colleges shall jointly develop a plan for implementing a uniform  
50 system of granting course credits to all students enrolled in constituent institutions of The  
51 University of North Carolina and all students enrolled in State community colleges based on

1 the students' military training or experience. The plan shall include a description of the  
2 procedure to be utilized in evaluating military training or experience and its correlation to  
3 school course credits and the process for the transfer of course credits between constituent  
4 institutions and community colleges when course credit has been granted by any institution or  
5 community college based upon military training or experience. As part of the plan, the Board of  
6 Governors of The University of North Carolina, in consultation with the State Board of  
7 Community Colleges, shall consider a process for recognizing Associate of Arts or Associate of  
8 Science degrees granted by institutions that are participants in the Servicemembers Opportunity  
9 Colleges Consortium or the Community College of the Air Force.

10 No later than September 1, 2014, the Board of Governors of The University of  
11 North Carolina and the State Board of Community Colleges shall provide a report to the Joint  
12 Legislative Education Oversight Committee, the cochairs of the House Homeland Security,  
13 Military, and Veterans Affairs Committee, and the cochairs of the Legislative Research  
14 Commission Study Committee on Civilian Credit for Military Training on the progress toward  
15 developing the plan required by this section. No later than January 1, 2015, the Board of  
16 Governors of The University of North Carolina and the State Board of Community Colleges  
17 shall submit the plan and any recommendations to the Joint Legislative Education Oversight  
18 Committee, the cochairs of the House Homeland Security, Military, and Veterans Affairs  
19 Committee, and the cochairs of the Legislative Research Commission Study Committee on  
20 Civilian Credit for Military Training and State Adjutant Selection Criteria.

21 **SECTION 4.** The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina and the  
22 State Board of Community Colleges, through the North Carolina Community College System  
23 Office, shall consult with the North Carolina National Guard Education and Employment  
24 Center, the North Carolina Department of Commerce, the North Carolina Department of Labor,  
25 and any other State or federal agencies as appropriate, to do the following: (i) study  
26 "Knowledge Gap Fulfillment," the continuation, development, and creation of programs that  
27 provide maximum credit for military training or experience that meet North Carolina licensing,  
28 certification, or credential standards; (ii) identify job development programs that require the  
29 same Military Occupational Skills (MOS) or share the same aptitude skills required to complete  
30 the program; (iii) identify existing Veterans Administration (VA) approved nondegree  
31 programs conducted in other states that have a high employment demand in North Carolina;  
32 (iv) determine the ability of State community colleges or other training centers to conduct these  
33 nondegree programs; and (v) identify and develop similar short-term programs that meet the  
34 needs of North Carolina-specific, high employment technical career fields. A consideration in  
35 all program studies in this section shall be VA-approved for educational benefits with the North  
36 Carolina State Approval Agency. The Board of Governors of The University of North Carolina  
37 and the State Board of Community Colleges shall report to the Joint Legislative Education  
38 Oversight Committee, the cochairs of the House Homeland Security, Military, and Veterans  
39 Affairs Committee, and the cochairs of the Legislative Research Commission Study Committee  
40 on Civilian Credit for Military Training and State Adjutant Selection Criteria with  
41 recommendations and any proposed legislation no later than December 15, 2014.

42 **SECTION 5.** Section 1 of this act becomes effective January 1, 2015. The  
43 remainder of this act is effective when it becomes law.