

AN ACT relating to occupational licensure for military service members and veterans.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 12 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

*(1) As used in this section, "administrative body" has the same meaning as in KRS 12.010.*

*(2) Notwithstanding any other law to the contrary, every administrative body that issues a license or certificate that is required to operate within a profession in the Commonwealth shall issue a license, certificate, or a temporary license or certificate to a military service member or veteran who is seeking licensure or certification under this section and has:*

*(a) Separated from the military with an honorable discharge, discharge under honorable conditions, or a general discharge under honorable conditions within two (2) years preceding the date of the license or certificate application;*

*(b) Received training during military service that could reasonably be expected to provide the experience and skills necessary for licensure or certification in a profession within the Commonwealth; and*

*(c) Submitted his or her DD 214 or other proof of military training to the administrative body as part of the license or certificate application.*

*(3) (a) Nothing is subsection (2) of this section requires an administrative body to issue a license or certificate if, within sixty (60) days of the receipt of the application, the administrative body determines that the military training or experience is not substantially equivalent to the standards of this state.*

*(b) Determinations by an administrative body about the nonequivalence of military training under paragraph (a) of this subsection may be appealed by*

the applicant to the administrative body that made the determination.

(c) Rulings of the administrative body under paragraph (b) of this subsection may be appealed to the Circuit Court with jurisdiction over the residence of the appellant, or the Franklin Circuit Court if the appellant resides out-of-state, in accordance with KRS Chapter 13B.

(4) Each administrative body that issues a license or certificate that is required to operate within a profession in the Commonwealth shall promulgate administrative regulations to carry out this section.

(5) Military training and experience submitted under subsection (2) of this section shall not be used as a substitute or in lieu of:

(a) A college degree when a degree is a prerequisite for licensure or certification; or

(b) A specified examination when passage of an examination is a prerequisite for licensure or certification.

➔Section 2. KRS 40.315 is amended to read as follows:

- (1) The Department of Veterans' Affairs shall establish and maintain state veterans' cemeteries in the Commonwealth for the purpose of providing for the interment of ~~Kentucky~~ veterans of the United States Armed Forces and for their next of kin, as determined by the department.
- (2) The Kentucky state veterans' cemeteries shall be under the administrative authority and control of the Department of Veterans' Affairs. The Department of Veterans' Affairs may promulgate administrative regulations necessary to operate the cemeteries in compliance with applicable state and federal statutes and regulations.
- (3) The Department of Veterans' Affairs is authorized to seek federal and private funding for the construction, renovation, and operation of Kentucky state veterans' cemeteries.