

ONE HUNDRED FIFTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION - 2017
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB342

Hearing Date: Wednesday February 15, 2017
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Erdman
One Liner: Adopt the Nurse Licensure Compact and provide for temporary nursing license for military spouses

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:
Aye: 7 Senators Crawford, Erdman, Howard, Kolterman, Linehan, Riepe, Williams
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Steve Erdman
Dan Donovan

Jenifer Roberts-Johnson
Kari Wade
Dawn Straub
Terry Dalton
Nicole Fox
Elisabeth Hurst

Representing:

Introducer
Heartland of America Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America
DHHS
Nebraska Nurses Association
Nebraska State Board of Nursing; Nebraska Medicine
Nebraska Kidney Coalition
Platte Institute
Nebraska Hospital Association

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Nathan Leach

Representing:

Self

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB 342 amends the Nurse Practice Act to streamline licensure for military spouses and provides updated language for adoption of the Enhanced Nurse Licensure Compact, which allows nurses to have one multi-state license, with the ability to practice in both their home state and other compact states.

SECTION BY SECTION:

Section (1): Amends Section 38-2201 of the Nurse Practice Act to add section.

Section (2): Amends Section 38-2202 of the Nurse Practice Act and Uniform Credentialing Act to add section.

Section (3): Defines "military spouse".

Section (4): Amends Section 38-2223 to allow a military spouse the ability to forgo requirement in Sections 38-2220 through 38-2222 to apply for a license under the Nurse Practice Act if requirements are met, including license requirements of another jurisdiction, competency and discipline. Mandates a military spouse holding a temporary license to practice nursing will receive priority processing.

Section (5): Amends Section 38-2225 to allow military spouses, as an applicant for a license, to be issued a temporary license if requirements are met. A military spouse may practice using temporary license until license is granted or denied. Mandates the Department of Health and Human Services adopt and promulgate rules and regulations, with the recommendation of the Board, for issuance of temporary licenses. Strikes outdated language.

Section (6): Provides for finding and declaration of purpose of the Nurse Licensure Compact. Provides for definitions of "adverse action", "alternative program", "coordinated licensure information system", "current significant investigative information", "encumbrance", "home state", "licensing board", "multistate license", "multistate licensure privilege", "nurse", "party state", "remote state", "single-state license", "state", "state practice laws". Provides for general provisions and jurisdiction of the Nurse Licensing Compact. Provides for additional authority invested in party state licensing boards. Provides for coordination of licensure information systems and for exchange of information. Establishes the Interstate Commission of Nurse Licensure Compact Administrators. Provides rulemaking requirements. Provides requirements for oversight, dispute resolution and enforcement. Provides for an effective date, withdrawal requirements and requirements for amending the Compact. Provides for construction and severability of Compact.

Section (7): Section 71-1795 and the Nurse Licensure Compact contained within 71-1795 terminates six months after date of enactment by twenty-six states or December 31, 2018. The State of Nebraska will be withdrawn from the Compact in Section 71-1795 at the time the Compact terminates.

Section (8): Repeal Sections 38-2201, 38-2202, 38-2223, and 38-2225.

Explanation of amendments:

AM 542 accomplishes the following:

Removes Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8 regarding temporary nursing licensing for military spouses.

Adds emergency clause.

Merv Riepe, Chairperson