

SENATE BILL 952

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By: **Senator Augustine**

Introduced and read first time: February 18, 2021

Assigned to: Rules

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Health Occupations – Internship and Residency Training Requirements –**
3 **Waiver for Former Service Members Injured in Combat**

4 FOR the purpose of requiring certain health occupations boards to waive certain internship
5 or residency training requirements for licensure, certification, or registration for a
6 certain former service member who has successfully completed certain education
7 requirements and passed a certain examination; altering certain provisions of law to
8 include certain former service members with respect to whom certain health
9 occupations boards are required to develop certain procedures, assign a certain
10 advisor, and provide certain other assistance; altering the information that certain
11 health occupations boards are required to publish on their websites to include the
12 expedited licensing process available to certain former service members; and
13 generally relating to internship and residency training requirements and former
14 service members.

15 BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,
16 Article – Health Occupations
17 Section 1–701(a), (b), and (d)
18 Annotated Code of Maryland
19 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

20 BY adding to
21 Article – Health Occupations
22 Section 1–702.1
23 Annotated Code of Maryland
24 (2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

25 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
26 Article – Health Occupations
27 Section 1–704 and 1–705
28 Annotated Code of Maryland

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



(2014 Replacement Volume and 2020 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article – Health Occupations

1–701.

(a) In this subtitle the following words have the meanings indicated.

(b) “Health occupations board” means a board authorized to issue a license, certificate, or registration under this article.

(d) “Service member” means an individual who is an active duty member of:

(1) The armed forces of the United States;

(2) A reserve component of the armed forces of the United States; or

(3) The National Guard of any state.

1–702.1.

EACH HEALTH OCCUPATIONS BOARD SHALL WAIVE ANY INTERNSHIP OR RESIDENCY TRAINING REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION FOR A FORMER SERVICE MEMBER WHO IS DISABLED AS A RESULT OF INJURY FROM COMBAT DEPLOYMENT AND:

(1) WAS DISCHARGED FROM ACTIVE DUTY UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES OTHER THAN DISHONORABLE;

(2) HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION; AND

(3) HAS PASSED ANY EXAMINATION REQUIRED FOR LICENSURE, CERTIFICATION, OR REGISTRATION.

1–704.

(a) (1) Each health occupations board shall develop a procedure by which an individual who applies for a license, certificate, or registration can notify the board that the individual is a service member, veteran, [or] military spouse, **OR FORMER SERVICE MEMBER WHO IS DISABLED AS A RESULT OF INJURY FROM COMBAT DEPLOYMENT.**

(2) A health occupations board may satisfy the requirement of paragraph (1) of this subsection by including a check-off box on a license, certificate, or registration application form.

(b) For each applicant who is a service member, veteran, [or] military spouse, **OR FORMER SERVICE MEMBER WHO IS DISABLED AS A RESULT OF INJURY FROM COMBAT DEPLOYMENT**, a health occupations board shall assign to the applicant an advisor to assist the individual with the application process.

(c) (1) Each health occupations board shall expedite the process for the licensure, certification, or registration of a service member, veteran, or military spouse.

(2) If a service member, veteran, or military spouse meets the requirements for licensure, certification, or registration, a health occupations board shall issue the license, certificate, or registration within 15 business days after receiving a completed application.

(d) If a health occupations board determines that a service member, veteran, [or] military spouse, **OR FORMER SERVICE MEMBER WHO IS DISABLED AS A RESULT OF INJURY FROM COMBAT DEPLOYMENT** does not meet the education, training, or experience requirements for licensure, certification, or registration, a representative of the board shall assist the service member, veteran, [or] military spouse, **OR FORMER SERVICE MEMBER WHO IS DISABLED AS A RESULT OF INJURY FROM COMBAT DEPLOYMENT** in identifying:

(1) Programs that offer relevant education or training; or

(2) Ways of obtaining needed experience.

1–705.

Each health occupations board shall publish prominently on its Web site information on:

(1) The expedited licensing process available to service members, veterans, [and] military spouses, **AND FORMER SERVICE MEMBERS WHO ARE DISABLED AS A RESULT OF INJURY FROM COMBAT DEPLOYMENT** under § 1–704 of this subtitle; and

(2) Any assistance and services related to licensure, certification, or registration provided by the board to service members, veterans, and military spouses.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect October 1, 2021.