



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1500 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-1500

MANPOWER AND
RESERVE AFFAIRS

January 21, 2021

The Honorable Peter Micciche
Senate President
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

Senator Micciche:

On behalf of the U.S. Department of Defense, I am writing in support of the policy relating to temporary courtesy licenses for spouses of active duty members of the armed forces as reflected in SB 12. This policy improves upon Alaska's current statute regarding occupational licensure for military spouses.

The Department is grateful to the Alaska Legislature for making strides to improve the transition of military members and their families. Many military families require two incomes to achieve their aspirations and frequent moves can inhibit a military spouse's ability to start and sustain a career. Differing licensing requirements can limit advancement or deter re-entry into the workforce at a new location. Spouses often suffer long periods of unemployment and therefore, loss of needed income to the family. Alaska's efforts to reduce these burdens is recognized and appreciated by the Department.

We look forward to providing support for SB 12 as it moves forward in upcoming hearings. For a more complete understanding of the occupational licensure enhancement continuum for military spouses, please see the attached one-page document titled, "Enhanced Military Spouse License Portability".

Again, we appreciate Alaska's supportive efforts for military members and families. Please do not hesitate to contact me at (571) 424-8264 or Tammie.L.Perreault.civ@mail.mil if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tammie L. Perreault", is positioned above the typed name.

Tammie L. Perreault
Northwest Regional Liaison
Defense-State Liaison Office
Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense
Military Community and Family Policy)

Cc: Senator Scott Kawasaki
Encl: As Stated