



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

1500 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-1500

MANPOWER AND
RESERVE AFFAIRS

March 8, 2023

Chairman Jesse Bjorkman
Senate Labor and Commerce
Alaska State Senate
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SB 74 and SB 75, Occupational Licensure Compacts

Chairman Bjorkman:

On behalf of the Department of Defense, I am writing in support of the policy changes expressed in SB 74 and 75, which addresses licensing issues affecting our service members and their families.

The Speech-Pathology and Audiology Compact and the Physical Therapy Compact allow military spouses in these professions to continue to work, without the cumbersome process of relicensing, when they move to the State of Alaska. These compacts will promote reciprocity and reduce the barriers to license portability.

Occupational Licensure compacts have been identified by the Department of Defense as the best form of licensure reciprocity for professionals moving across state lines. SB 74 and 75 provide specific provisions to support military spouses. The individual may retain the home state designation during the period the service member is on active duty. Subsequent to designating a home state, the individual shall only change their home state through application for licensure in the new state.

We are grateful for the tremendous efforts that Alaska has historically made supporting our military members and their families. We especially thank Senator Wilson for sponsoring this legislation.

Please feel free to contact me at Tammie.L.Perreault.civ@mail.mil or (571) 424-8264 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Tammie L. Perreault
Northwest Regional Liaison
Defense-State Liaison Office
Military Community & Family Policy