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Sponsor Statement for CSHB 28

An Act Relating to Temporary Licenses for Certain Nonresident Professionals and to a Temporary Exemption from Fees and other Licensing Requirements for Active Duty Members of the Armed Forces

HB 28 allows the spouses of service members on active duty to obtain a temporary license if they practice in an area that is regulated by the Division of Corporations, Business, and Professional Licensing.

The lives of military families are dominated by frequent deployments, relocations, and extended periods of single parenthood. Military spouses are some of the most mobile populations in our country, making the maintenance of professional licenses a large obstacle. When deciding whether or not to stay in the armed forces, service members often take into account the well being of their spouses and families. Being able to practice in their field of expertise goes a long way towards fulfilling the needs of our military spouses and their families.

CSHB 28 allows a military spouse to obtain a temporary license in their field of practice as long as they meet the professional standards which are already required by law or regulation. The temporary license will be valid for six months at which time the military spouse has the option of obtaining an Alaska license or asking for a renewal of the temporary license.

Military spouses are just like their civilian counterparts. They depend on two incomes and want to achieve their goals and aspirations. CSHB 28 helps to alleviate the hardships that they face due to their highly transient lifestyle. I strongly urge your support of CSHB 28.