

One Hundred Second Legislature - Second Session - 2012

Introducer's Statement of Intent

LB892

Chairperson: Senator Kathy Campbell

Committee: Health and Human Services

Date of Hearing: February 23, 2012

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 892 addresses two barriers facing members of the military and spouses of those members.

First, LB 892 specifies that military members shall be issued a license or certification in an occupation covered under the Uniform Credentialing Act if that member of the military can demonstrate that he or she has completed a program in the military that is equivalent to the requirements for licensure or certification in our state.

Veterans are finding that their military experience does not always translate into the civilian work world. Many U.S. Companies, and some veterans themselves, do not know how to translate military experience into civilian job skills. There is a disconnect between company requirements and veterans' giving confusing descriptions of their military experience to civilian employers.

LB 892 should make it easier for employers to hire the well-qualified applicants and I hope will give veterans a greater opportunity to serve our community in the various professions noted in the bill.

Secondly, LB 892 provides similar provisions for spouses of military members as these spouses enter Nebraska and seek employment.

Military families move from state to state far more often than the general population as they accompany their service member to assignments across the nation. These frequent moves can create difficulties for military spouses seeking to maintain their careers. Spouses serving in professions that require state licenses or certifications bear disproportionately high financial and administrative burdens since credentials from one state don't always transfer to another state.

LB 892 is a way for us to honor the sacrifices of our veterans and their families. It will also strengthen our community as veterans and their spouses enter our workforce with greater ease.

Principal Introducer: _____

Senator Amanda McGill