



DEFENSE-STATE LIAISON OFFICE

Working with state policymakers to support military families



What We Do

The Defense-State Liaison Office, or DSLO, works with state policymakers to change laws and policies to improve military family well-being.

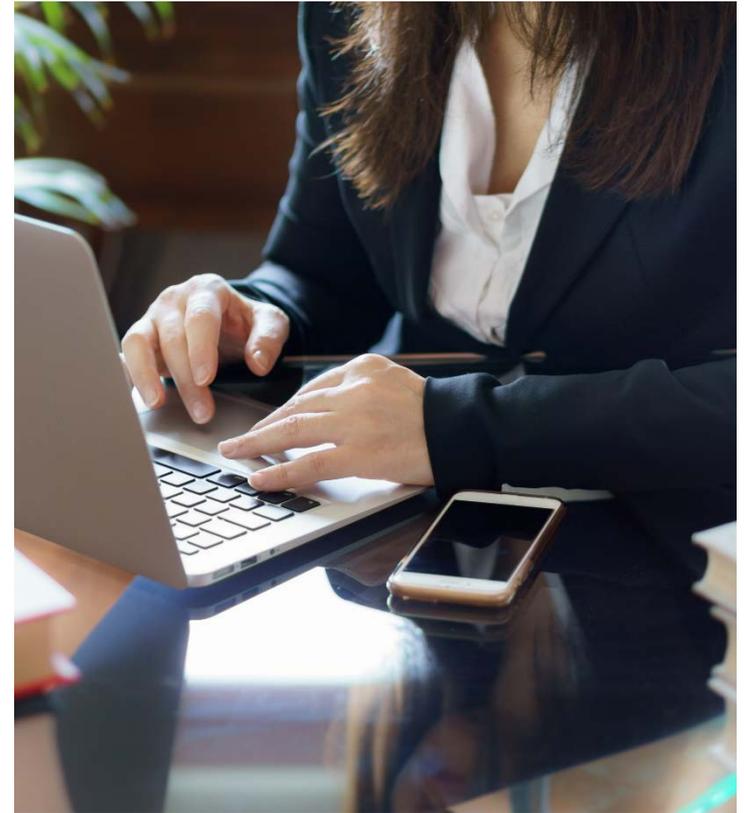
Since 2010, we've worked with state policymakers to enact over 600 bills that make life better for the military community.



How We Do It: A Range of Resources

We provide:

- Support from regional liaisons throughout the legislative process
- Background information on relevant issues and their impact on military families
- Best-practice legislation from other states
- Official Department of Defense data about military families to help inform decisions
- Current information about the status of relevant legislation in each state
- Offering insights into military life and knowledge of how different issues impact military families
- Liaisons testify at committee hearing if invited
- Help find constituents to also testify



10 DoD Key Issues for 2021

- Enhanced Military Spouse Licensure Portability (On going)**
 - Licensure Evaluation (On going)**
 - Interstate Licensing Compacts (Nursing, EMS Psych, Physical Therapy, Speech/Audiology)**
 - Advance Enrollment (new in 2019)**
 - Virtual School Enrollment (new in 2020)**
 - “Ask The Question” Campaign (new in 2020)**
 - Purple Star School Program (new in 2021)**
 - ✓ **Military Spouse Teacher Certification**
 - ✓ **In-State Tuition Continuity**
 - ✓ **Child Abuse Identification and Reporting**
- ✓ Complete in New Mexico



Commitment to our Spouses!

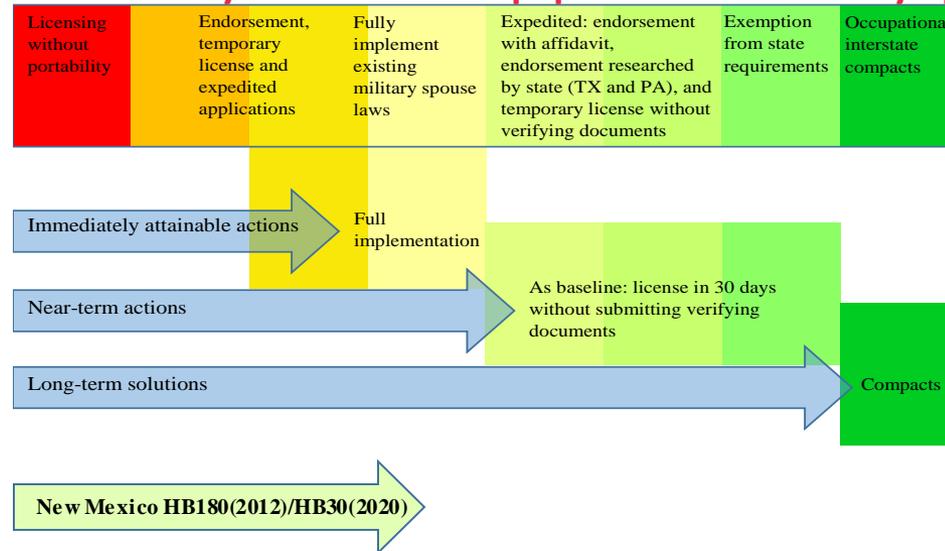
- The Sec-Def letter to the Council of Governors
- Added priority to take care of Service members and their families.
- **Specific attention to license portability for military spouses and approving interstate compacts leading to license reciprocity.**



Licensure Portability Enhancements

Reciprocity: A continuum of opportunities to transfer an occupational license between states.

Goal: License in 30 days with minimal paperwork for military spouses.



Licensure Portability Approaches:

❑ State-specific Best Practices for the short term:

- Exempt Military Spouses from State Licensing Requirements by Allowing Them to Work in the State Based Upon having a Current License in Good Standing from Another State (AZ, FL and UT)
- State Licensing Board Research of State Requirements (TX)
- Temporary Authority to Work Using a Current License in Good Standing from Another State (OH and CO)
- Use of an Affidavit with an Application to Issue a License Prior to Receiving Verifying Documents (MS)

❑ Interstate Occupational Compacts are the long term solution



Licensure Portability Implementation:

□ Implementation of NM HB 30 (2020):

- DoD is asking state policymakers to assess the actions of licensing boards to encourage implementation of changes to laws and regulatory policy.
- Establish mechanisms that allow military spouses to easily apply.
- Desired outcome is that licensing agencies and/or boards train staff, revise application forms to include check the box for military spouses, and post information on websites directed to the military community.



Preparing for 2021

- Confirm interest in sponsorship for Advance Enrollment and Virtual School Enrollment
- Provide assistance, as requested, to strengthen Enhanced Military Spouse Licensure Portability and Licensure Evaluation
- Support the New Mexico Speech-Language and Hearing Association (NMSHA), as needed, since NM is a target state for the Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact (ASLP-IC) in 2021; no sponsor yet
- Support the New Mexico State Board of Psychologist Examiners and the NM Psychological Association, as needed, since both have interest in NM as a target state for the Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact (PSYPACT) in 2021; no sponsor yet
- Support the New Mexico Physical Therapy Association as NM is a possible target state for the Physical Therapy Licensure Compact (PTLC) in 2021
- Continue to interface with the New Mexico Working Group on Suicide Prevention as they consider using the “Ask the Question” approach



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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