The County of Yuba  
County Administrator

TO: Board of Supervisors  
FROM: Kevin Mallen, County Administrator  
Jamme Yang, Management Analyst  
SUBJECT: County Administrator: Approve support letter for AB 2549 and AB 3045, and authorize Chair to execute. (Five minute estimate)

DATE: August 11, 2020  
NUMBER: 399/2020

Recommendation

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors approve a letter of support for Assembly Bills 2549 and 3045 which would require most boards under the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) to issue occupational licenses to retired veterans and military spouses of active duty service members if they possess a valid and unrestricted license in that profession from another state, and authorize the chairman to execute.

Background & Discussion

In California, many professions require a license to legally practice. The majority of professional licensing programs are administered by licensing boards, bureaus, and other entities within the DCA. The licensing entities establish the minimum level of competency required to engage in the occupations they regulate; however, to avoid creating unnecessary barriers to entering a profession, the requirements should not require more than the essential amount of training, education, and experience necessary to practice safely. State policies that enhance existing licensure provisions for military spouses relieve one of the many stressors of frequent military moves by enabling spouses to more quickly transfer their licenses in order to obtain employment in a new state.

AB 2549 would add specified licensing boards to the list of boards under the DCA that are required to issue temporary licenses to military spouses and requires boards under the requirement to promulgate regulations as specified. AB 3045 would require certain regulatory boards to grant licenses to applicants who are either honorably discharged veterans or are the spouse or partner of an active duty member of the Armed Forces in cases where the applicant holds a current, active, and unrestricted license in another state.

Yuba County is home to Beale Air Force Base, which includes a large number of military personnel with family. Military families face many challenges as they navigate through deployments, relocations,
and the costs associated with frequent, unexpected lifestyle changes. Just the financial burden of moving can be a huge setback for a military family. The Syracuse University Institute for Veterans and Military Families found that up to 35% of military spouses are employed in fields requiring licensure. License portability is critical, especially for our military spouses who frequently move to California and face overly burdensome barriers in finding employment.

Committee Action:

None. This request is brought directly to the full Board of Supervisors for consideration.

Fiscal Impact:

General Fund Impact: No impact
Non-General Fund Impact: No impact
Other Impact: No impact

Attachments

399/2020 AB 2549 & AB 3045 Support Letter