

DoD Quality of Life State Policy Priorities: Update on Military Spouse Employment & Economic Opportunities

Nevada Joint Interim Standing Committee on
Commerce & Labor

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U.S. Department of Defense

Defense-State Liaison Office Mission

The Defense-State Liaison Office (DSLO) was established by the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness in 2004.

- DSLO is charged to address designated Personnel and Readiness priorities with state policymakers to change laws and policies to improve military family life.
- In the past decade, we have helped to enact over 1,000 bills covering a wide range of quality of life issues to include:
 - Family law, education, occupational licensure and employment support, consumer protection, voting, health policy, & National Guard support





DoD Focus on Quality of Life – Taking Care of Our Military Families

September 2022 DOD Memo: Taking Care of Our Service Members and Their Families

“The Department of Defense has a sacred obligation to take care of our service members and families. Doing so is a national security imperative. Our military families provide the strong foundation for our force, and we owe them our full support.”

– Lloyd J. Austin, secretary of defense

September 2021 Joining Forces Report: Strengthening America’s Military Families

“The families of our service members and veterans, caregivers, and survivors ... may not wear a uniform ... but they sacrifice for us all. They give their best to the United States, and we owe them nothing but our best in return.”

– Dr. Jill Biden, first lady



DoD 2024 State Policy Priorities: NV Status

STATE POLICY PRIORITIES	STATUS	NO. OF STATES W/ POLICY	NOTES
Military Access to Quality Family Child Care	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New priority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partially addressed <input type="checkbox"/> Priority completed	14	NV has already implemented MCCYN-Plus; reviewing statute to determine if state licensure exemption for DoD/military-certified family child care providers.
Military Spouse Employment and Economic Opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/> New priority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partially addressed <input type="checkbox"/> Priority completed	46	Licensure portability and compact bills failed in 2019/2021/2023. NV enacted compacts for Psychologists (2016), Teachers and Massage Therapists (2023).
Defining Armed Forces in State Policy	<input type="checkbox"/> New priority <input type="checkbox"/> Partially addressed <input type="checkbox"/> Priority completed	19	Not yet addressed in NV. Requesting inclusion of "Space Force" in definitions of Armed Forces or Uniformed Services in state statute.
Military Community Representation on State Boards and Councils	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New priority <input type="checkbox"/> Partially addressed <input type="checkbox"/> Priority completed	7	Not yet addressed in NV. Requesting inclusion of representatives of the military community on targeted state-wide boards, councils and commissions.
State Support for Military Families With Special Education Needs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New priority <input type="checkbox"/> Partially addressed <input type="checkbox"/> Priority completed	6	New priority; pending further review in NV
Open Enrollment Flexibility	<input type="checkbox"/> New priority <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Partially addressed <input type="checkbox"/> Priority completed	12	Governor signed AB 185 to enact advance enrollment and to establish a priority for military families applying for charter school enrollment. Recommend expanding.
Child Abuse Identification and Reporting	<input type="checkbox"/> New priority <input type="checkbox"/> Partially addressed <input type="checkbox"/> Priority completed	33	Not yet addressed in NV. Requesting legislation requiring sharing of information on suspected and confirmed cases of child abuse involving military families.
Military Family Anti-Discrimination Status	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New priority <input type="checkbox"/> Partially addressed <input type="checkbox"/> Priority completed	5	Not yet addressed in NV. Requesting inclusion of military family status in state anti-discrimination statutes.
State Response to Military Interpersonal Violence	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New priority <input type="checkbox"/> Partially addressed <input type="checkbox"/> Priority completed	14	New priority; pending review of NV statutes
Concurrent Juvenile Jurisdiction	<input type="checkbox"/> New priority <input type="checkbox"/> Partially addressed <input type="checkbox"/> Priority completed	7	Requesting legislation that delegates and defines the conditions for the transfer of power on all military installations to adjudicate juvenile offenses by local authorities.





2024 Priorities – Military Spouse Employment and Economic Opportunities

- As states implement the provision of the Military Spouse Licensing Relief Act, they can help military spouses maintain professional and financial stability by **enacting licensing compacts** and ensuring that licensing agencies **make their application processes accessible** to military spouses.
- Nevada has not made significant progress over the past 2 sessions to meet DoD's criteria for Military Spouse Employment and Economic Opportunities
 - **Military Spouse Portability and Occupational Licensure**
Access: AB 439/SB 402 failed
 - **Licensure Compacts:**
 - Enacted 3 of 14 licensing compacts (Teaching, Massage Therapy and Psychology)
 - Previous compact bills (EMS, Physical Therapy and Nursing) have failed

On Jan. 5, 2023, President Joe Biden signed into law the Veterans Auto and Education Improvement Act of 2022 (H.R. 7939). Section 19 contains the Military Spouse Licensing Relief Act, which intends to provide for licensure portability among all 50 states for all service members and military spouse licensed professionals, except the practice of law.





Interstate Occupational Licensure Compacts

The Department's optimum standard for licensure portability is allowing professionals to seamlessly practice across state lines.

Current compacts being considered by states:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nurse Licensure Compact | <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Licensure Compact |
| ✓ Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Physical Therapy Licensure Compact | ✓ Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency Medical Service Compact | <input type="checkbox"/> Physician's Associate Compact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Audiology/Speech-Language Pathology – Interstate Compact | ✓ Massage Therapy Compact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact | <input type="checkbox"/> Cosmetology Compact |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Licensed Professional Counselor Licensure Compact | <input type="checkbox"/> Dentistry/Dental Hygiene Compact |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Work Compact |





2024 Priorities – Child Care

Military Access to Quality Family Child Care:

By recognizing military family child care certification, in lieu of requiring state licensing, states can enhance access to military child care and reduce the time on waitlists. States can also support Military Child Care in Your Neighborhood-PLUS, which increases access for active-duty, National Guard and reserve families.



Contact

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See an overview of where your state stands on the
DoD priorities for military families at
statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil.

