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Date: (Filing No. H-)

LABOR, COMMERCE, RESEARCH AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
126TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT “ ” to H.P. 802, L.D. 1137, Bill, “An Act To Facilitate Veterans' and Their Spouses' Access to Employment, Education and Training”

Amend the bill in section 1 in §8010 by striking out all of the first paragraph (page 1, lines 4 to 14 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

'By January 1, 2014, each board, commission, office and agency within the department listed in section 8001 or affiliated with the department under section 8001-A shall adopt a process to facilitate qualified returning military veterans and qualified spouses of returning military veterans or of active duty service members to qualify for professional licenses granted by those boards, commissions, offices and agencies in an expeditious manner. Procedures adopted pursuant to this section supersede general licensing requirements of those boards, commissions, offices and agencies. For the purposes of this section, "returning military veteran" means a veteran of the Armed Forces of the United States who has been honorably discharged from active duty. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the Director of the Office of Professional and Occupational Regulation and each licensing board within or affiliated with the department shall, upon presentation of satisfactory evidence by an applicant for professional or occupational licensure, accept education, training or service completed by the applicant as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States or Reserves of the United States Armed Forces, the national guard of any state, the military reserves of any state or the naval militia of any state toward the qualifications to receive the license.'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §8010 in subsection 1 in the first line (page 1, line 15 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "commission" the following: ', office'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §8010 in subsection 2 in the first line (page 1, line 20 in L.D.) by inserting after the following: "commission" the following: ', office'

Amend the bill in section 1 in §8010 by striking out all of subsections 3 and 4 (page 1, lines 24 to 34 in L.D.) and inserting the following:

3. Acceptance of military credentials. The board, commission, office or agency shall permit a returning military veteran whose military training qualifies the veteran for a

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

1 license in a profession or occupation that requires a license in this State to acquire a
2 temporary license until a license is issued.

3 **4. Continuing education requirements.** The board, commission, office or agency
4 may allow a full or partial exemption from continuing education requirements for a
5 returning military veteran or the spouse of a returning military veteran or of an active
6 duty service member. Evidence of completion of continuing education requirements may
7 be required for a subsequent license or renewal. A board, commission, office or agency
8 shall provide that continuing education requirements may be met by comparable military
9 training.'

10 Amend the bill in section 1 in §8010 by striking out all of the last paragraph (page 1,
11 lines 35 and 36 in L.D.)

12 SUMMARY

13 This amendment removes the rule-making requirements in the bill for the Department
14 of Professional and Financial Regulation and requires the Director of the Office of
15 Professional and Occupational Regulation and each licensing board within or affiliated
16 with the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation to, upon presentation of
17 satisfactory evidence by an applicant for professional or occupational licensure, accept
18 education, training or service completed by the applicant as a member of the Armed
19 Forces of the United States or Reserves of the United States, the national guard of any
20 state, the military reserves of any state or the naval militia of any state toward the
21 qualifications to receive the license. It also amends the provisions in the bill governing
22 acceptance of military credentials to permit a returning military veteran whose military
23 training qualifies the veteran for a license in a profession or occupation that requires a
24 license in this State to acquire a temporary license until a license is issued and permits the
25 board, commission, office or agency to allow for a full or partial exemption from
26 continuing education requirements for a returning military veteran or the spouse of a
27 returning military veteran or of an active duty service member. It clarifies that a
28 returning military veteran must have been honorably discharged from active duty. The
29 amendment removes the 12-month time frame for a person who has been discharged from
30 active duty to be considered a returning military veteran.