

SENATE SUBSTITUTE TO HB 68

AS PASSED SENATE**A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT**

1 To amend Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to professions and
2 businesses, so as to provide for individuals who move to the state and establish residency to
3 obtain a license by endorsement to practice certain professions and occupations in this state;
4 to provide for requirements; to authorize the Georgia Board of Nursing to require the
5 collection of certain workforce data; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective
6 date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:**

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to professions and businesses,
10 is amended by revising Code Section 43-1-34.1, relating to expedited license by endorsement
11 for military spouses, as follows:

12 "43-1-34.1.

13 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

14 (1) 'License' shall have the same meaning as provided in Code Section 43-1-34.

15 (2) 'Military' shall have the same meaning as provided in Code Section 43-1-34.

16 (3) 'Other board' shall have the same meaning as provided in Code Section 43-1-34.

17 (4) 'Service member' shall have the same meaning as provided in Code Section 43-1-34.

18 (5) 'State' means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the
19 United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the
20 jurisdiction of the United States.

21 (6) 'Transitioning service member' shall have the same meaning as provided in Code
22 Section 43-1-34.

23 (b) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, a professional licensing board or other
24 board shall issue an expedited license by endorsement to any individual that:

25 (1) Is a spouse of a service member or transitioning service member stationed within this
26 state;

27 (2) Holds a current license to practice such occupation or profession issued by another
28 state for which the training, experience, and testing are substantially similar in
29 qualifications and scope to the requirements under this state to obtain a license;

30 (3) Is in good standing in such other state; and

31 (4) Passes any examination that may only be required to demonstrate knowledge of the
32 laws and rules and regulations of this state specific to the practice of the profession,
33 business, or trade for which such expedited license by endorsement is being sought.

34 (c) Notwithstanding any other provisions of law, a professional licensing board or other
35 board shall issue a license by endorsement for any license other than those provided to
36 dentists under Chapter 11 or to physicians or osteopaths under Chapter 34 of this title to
37 any individual that:

38 (1) Moves from another state and establishes residency in this state;

39 (2) Holds a current license to practice such occupation or profession issued by another
40 state that was acquired prior to moving from another state and establishing residency in
41 this state for which the training, experience, and testing are substantially similar in
42 qualifications and scope to the requirements under this state to obtain a license;

43 (3) Is in good standing in such other state and is not the subject of an investigation being
44 conducted by a professional licensing board or other board in such other state; and

45 (4) Passes any examination that may only be required to demonstrate knowledge of the
46 laws and rules and regulations of this state specific to the practice of the profession,
47 business, or trade for which such license by endorsement is being sought.
48 ~~(e)~~(d) Nothing contained in this Code section shall be construed to invalidate, override, or
49 amend any licensing compact entered into by the State of Georgia or to permit the issuance
50 of a license without verification under Code Section 50-36-1."

51 **SECTION 2.**

52 Said title is further amended by adding a new paragraph to subsection (a) of Code Section
53 43-26-5, relating to general powers and responsibilities of the Georgia Board of Nursing, to
54 read as follows:

55 "(20.1) Be authorized to require the collection of workforce data from applicants when
56 issuing and renewing licenses under this chapter:"

57 **SECTION 3.**

58 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law
59 without such approval.

60 **SECTION 4.**

61 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.