



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

Office of the Governor

November 18, 2019

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable Christopher K. Peace
Chairman, House General Laws

The Honorable Frank M. Ruff, Jr.
Chairman, Senate General Laws and Technology

FROM: Daniel Carey, MD *dc*

SUBJECT: Annual report pursuant to Chapter 524 Enactment Clause 2

Attached is the Report pursuant to Chapter 524 Enactment Clause 2, which requires the Secretary of Health and Human Resources to submit an annual report as follows:

Annual report on the number of licenses or permits issued wherein the qualifications for licensure accepted are based on an applicant's military training, education, or experience as a service member honorably discharged from active military service in the armed forces of the United States, to the extent that such training, education, or experience is substantially equivalent to the requirements established by law and regulations of the respective board for the issuance of any license, permit, certificate, or other document, however styled or denominated, required for the practice of any business, profession, or occupation in the Commonwealth.

Should you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact me at (804) 786-7765.

DC/kb

Enclosure

Report of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources

Pursuant to Chapter 524 of the 2012 Acts of the Assembly

October, 2019

Chapter 524 of the 2012 Acts of the Assembly specified that *“the regulatory boards within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation, the Department of Health Professions, or any board named in this title shall accept the military training, education, or experience of a service member honorably discharged from active military service in the armed forces of the United States, to the extent that such training, education, or experience is substantially equivalent to the requirements established by law and regulations of the respective board for the issuance of any license, permit, certificate, or other document, however styled or denominated, required for the practice of any business, profession, or occupation in the Commonwealth.”*

The second enactment of Chapter 524 directed: *“That the Secretary of Health and Human Resources shall report annually to the Chairmen of the House Committee on General Laws and the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology on the number of licenses or permits issued pursuant to the provisions of this act.”*

For the period of October 2018 through September 2019, the Department of Health Professions has primarily issued licenses for individuals based upon their meeting the requirements expressly provided in statute and board regulations. The majority of health professions licenses require graduation from an accredited or approved education program at the associate’s degree level of education and above and additional standardized clinical training. Professionals at this level generally hold officer rank and are required by the military to be licensed in at least one state in the United States. Therefore, health regulatory boards are able to license those professionals by endorsement, so there is no comparison of military credentials needed.

However, there are some specific examples of military training and education acceptable for licensure or registration.

- The Board of Pharmacy has issued a registration to a pharmacy technician based on training in the military.
- The Board of Long-Term Care Administrators accepted military training that was deemed equivalent to college credit hours in any subject to qualify for training as an assisted living administrator.
- The Board of Medicine accepts successful completion of a surgical assistant or surgical technologist training program in the military for registration.
- The Board of Nursing licenses practical nurses who have completed a 52-week practical nursing course (300-M6) at Fort Sam Houston in Texas because the program is approved by the Texas Board of Nursing.