

CITY of ALBUQUERQUE

TWENTY SIXTH COUNCIL

COUNCIL BILL NO. M-25-4 ENACTMENT NO. _____

SPONSORED BY: Renée Grout

1 MEMORIAL IN SUPPORT OF HOUSE BILLS 79, 81, 82, AND 110, AND SENATE
2 BILLS 104, 105, AND 106 SUPPORTING SPOUSES OF MILITARY PERSONNEL
3 IN THE PORTABILITY OF THEIR PROFESSIONAL BUSINESS LICENSES.

4 WHEREAS, active-duty members of the U.S. military are relocated often
5 during the course of their careers, presenting numerous challenges for their
6 spouses and families, especially spouses who are licensed professionals; and

7 WHEREAS, The U.S. Department of Justice reports that the most
8 challenging part of military relocation is finding new employment for the
9 service member's spouse, and this is especially burdensome for licensed
10 professionals who must transfer professional certificates and licenses
11 between states; and

12 WHEREAS, in 2023, the unemployment rate of military spouses was 21%,
13 and it took an average of 19 weeks for military spouses to find employment;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, to assist military spouses, Congress amended the
16 Servicemembers Relief Act in 2023 to ensure professional license portability
17 by enabling states to form interstate compacts for licensed professionals; and

18 WHEREAS, the proposed bills will ensure interstate compact participation
19 for the following professions:

- 20 • Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (HB 79 and SB 104)
- 21 • Occupational Therapy (HB 81)
- 22 • Physical Therapy (HB 82)
- 23 • Teaching (HB 110)
- 24 • Social Work (SB 105)
- 25 • Psychology (SB 106)

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1 WHEREAS, the New Mexico Legislature may introduce similar interstate
2 compact participation legislation for the Advanced Practice-Registered Nurse,
3 Cosmetology, Dental and Dental Hygienist, Dietician, Emergency Medical
4 Services, Massage Therapy, Professional Counseling, Physician Assistant,
5 and School Psychologist professions, and the Albuquerque City Council
6 supports this forthcoming legislation; and

7 WHEREAS, unfilled positions in these essential healthcare and supportive
8 service professions could be filled by trained and licensed military spouses if
9 their licenses were portable; and

10 WHEREAS, Ensuring the portability of professional licenses would help
11 ease the stress inherent in frequent moves due to military service.

12 BE IT MEMORIALIZED BY THE COUNCIL, THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE
13 CITY OF ALBUQUERQUE:

14 SECTION 1. The Albuquerque City Council urges the New Mexico State
15 Legislature to pass House Bills 79, 81, 82, and 110; and Senate Bills 104, 105,
16 and 106 along with similar interstate compact participation legislation to
17 ensure the portability of professional licenses for the spouses of military
18 service members.

19 SECTION 2. The City Clerk is directed to transmit copies of this Memorial to
20 the City of Albuquerque State Legislative Delegation, the New Mexico
21 Legislature, the Governor of New Mexico, and other appropriate state
22 agencies.

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