




DEFENSE-STATE LIAISON OFFICE
 Dale Vande Hey, South Central Regional Liaison
 New Mexico Joint Interim Mil & Vet Affairs Committee
 August 19, 2021




Who We Are

- The Defense-State Liaison Office, or DSLO, was established by Office of the Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness in 2004
- DSLO is charged to address designated Personnel and Readiness Key Issues with state policymakers to change laws and policies to improve military family well-being.
- We have helped to enact nearly 800 bills covering a wide range of state issues:
 - Family law, education, occupational licensure and employment support, consumer protection, voting, health policy, National Guard support and state judicial systems




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2022 Key Issues – Licensure Portability

- ✓ **Enhanced Spouse Licensure Portability – 2021: NM HB 120 (Alcon)**
 - States can streamline state licensing processes for relocating military spouses by providing them with a license within 30 days with minimal initial paperwork.
- ☐ **Military Spouse Occupational Licensure Access**
 - States validate that existing licensure policies are being enacted by boards and information is on board websites and applications for military spouses.
- ☐ **Occupational Licensure Compacts – 2019: NM SB 1 Kernan (Nurses); Attempted in 2021: NM SB 119 (Psychology), NM HB 60 (Physical Therapy) and NM HB 210 (Audiology Speech Language Pathology)**
 - States can facilitate the ability of professionals, including military spouses, to work across state lines by enacting occupational licensure interstate compacts.


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2022 Key Issues – Education

- ✓ **Advance Enrollment – 2021: NM SB 272 (Pope)**
 - States can help by waiving proof of residency requirements until the student arrives in the new state on military transfer orders.
- ✓ **Purple Star School Program – 2021: NM 271 (Pope)**
 - By establishing statewide Purple Star Schools programs, states can encourage local education agencies to implement practices that assist military children with transitions/deployments.
- ✓ **In-State Tuition Continuity – 2005: NM SB 921 (Rawson)**
 - Allows a military child to maintain in-state residence status for tuition determination based on time of acceptance to the university, even if the military parent has moved out of state.
- ☐ **Open Enrollment Flexibility (NEW for 2022)**
 - States can provide military families with increased flexibility through access to district open enrollment policies.


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2022 Key Issues – Other Areas

- ✓ **Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting – 2019: Policy update by the NM CY&FD**
 - States can assist the department by requiring local jurisdictions to identify military families and develop reporting and information-sharing procedures between civilian child protective services and military child advocacy.
- ☐ **"Ask the Question" Campaign**
 - State agencies can connect service members, veterans and their families with local, state and federal resources by asking the question, "Have you or a family member ever served in the military?" on all intake forms.
- ☐ **Concurrent Jurisdiction (NEW in 2022)**
 - States' juvenile courts can adjudicate juvenile offenses when concurrent jurisdiction is established between state and federal authorities over military installations.

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Contact Information

The Defense-State Liaison Office stands ready to help you make policy changes in these quality of life areas that matter to military families.

For additional information, visit statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil

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