



December 7, 2020

Dear Senate President Larry Obhof, Chairman Kirk Schuring, and Vice Chairman Michael Rulli,

As the Ohio Senate considers legislation to codify universal recognition of out-of-state-licenses held in good standing, Concerned Veterans for America (CVA) urges legislators to include amendment language in the bill to extend that same treatment to veterans who hold valid occupational credentials and experience from the military, including those who have served in the National Guard or Reserves.

Ohio is home to over 770,000 veterans, or approximately 9 percent of the state's adult population.¹ Allowing these veterans to draw on the skills, knowledge, and training they received while serving their country in the military and use them to create value in their local communities will remove a significant barrier that often makes the soldier to civilian transition difficult. Ohio veterans should be empowered to work and provide for their families with the experience they already have gained while in the military, not forced to navigate red tape and redundant education and training requirements.

Ohio veterans, and those wishing to move to Ohio to contribute to its economy, deserve the dignity of personal choice and the ability to support their families without undue government burdens. While often well-intentioned, today many government occupational licensing requirements are anti-competitive, needlessly burdensome, and ineffective at addressing public health and safety concerns.² As CVA continues to advocate on behalf of today and tomorrow's veterans, we urge you to support this amendment language to open doors to more jobs and consumer choice for Ohio veterans.

Sincerely,

Nate Anderson
Executive Director
Concerned Veterans for America

¹ https://www.va.gov/vetdata/docs/SpecialReports/State_Summaries_Ohio.pdf

² https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2016/06/THP_KleinerBrief_final.pdf