

ASSEMBLY MILITARY AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

STATEMENT TO ASSEMBLY, No. 2722

with committee amendments

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

DATED: SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

The Assembly Military and Veterans Affairs Committee reports favorably and with committee amendments Assembly Bill No. 2722.

This bill permits a veteran to receive credit toward licensure as a licensed practical nurse (L.P.N.) upon completing certain military medical training programs.

Specifically, the bill permits an honorably discharged veteran to complete the Army Practical Nurse Program (68WM6) or the Air Force BMTCP 4N051 (5 Skill Level), or their equivalents, in lieu of obtaining a diploma from a school of practical nursing approved by the New Jersey Board of Nursing to qualify as an applicant for licensure.

As amended, the bill also directs the New Jersey Board of Nursing to issue rules describing the training, education, and experience for which it will give credit toward its requirements for licensure as a licensed practical nurse under the laws governing the issuance of certain professional and occupational licenses to veterans with equivalent training. The bill also directs the board to specify the remaining requirements or courses that an applicant must fulfill or complete in order to take the National Council Licensure Examination-Practical Nurse (NCLEX-PN) after equivalent credit is given for that training, education, or experience. The bill requires that, at a minimum, equivalent credit be given for successful completion of the following courses or programs:

- (1) Army Practical Nursing Specialist (68C);
- (2) Army Healthcare or Medic Specialist (68W);
- (3) Navy Basic Medical Technician Corpsman Program (HM0000);
- (4) Air Force Basic Medical Technician Corpsman Program or Aerospace Medical Service (4N0X1);
- (5) Air Force Basic Medical Technician Corpsman Program (4N031) (3 Skill Level);
- (6) Air Force Independent Duty Medical Technician (IDMT 4N0X1C); or

(7) any other program as determined by the Department of Military and Veterans' Affairs.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amended the bill to clarify that completion of a military training program or course does not provide automatic licensure as a licensed practical nurse. The amendments specify that the board will review each military program and each applicant's training, education, and experience to determine the appropriate amount of credit to be given to an applicant, and the applicant cannot take the required examination until proof of satisfactory completion of any requirements or courses is provided and approved by the Board of Nursing.