For possible action; review and discussion to approve the proposed NAC language relating to reciprocity to an active member of the Armed Forces, member's spouse, veteran or veteran's spouse pursuant to NRS 622.510 and NRS 622.530. Speaker: Peggy Elias, Legislative Regulations Committee Chairperson

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

NRS 622.510 and NRS 622.530 allows the Board to adopt regulations to provide reciprocity to a member of the Armed Forces and their spouse. A statutory change is not required.

NRS 622.510 Regulatory body to develop opportunities for reciprocity for qualified active member of Armed Forces, member's spouse, veteran or veteran's surviving spouse. A regulatory body shall develop opportunities for reciprocity of licensure for any person who:

1. Is an active member of, or the spouse of an active member of, the Armed Forces of the United States, a veteran or the surviving spouse of a veteran; and

2. Holds a valid and unrestricted license to practice his or her profession that is not recognized by this State.

(Added to NRS by 2015, 3865)

NRS 622.530 Regulatory body to adopt regulations for license by endorsement for qualified persons; restrictions; issuance of license by endorsement; conflicts with other license by endorsement provisions. [Effective until the date of the repeal of 42 U.S.C. § 666, the federal law requiring each state to establish procedures for withholding, suspending and restricting the professional, occupational and recreational licenses for child support arrearages and for noncompliance with certain processes relating to paternity or child support proceedings.]

1. Except as otherwise provided by specific statute relating to the issuance of a license by endorsement, a regulatory body shall adopt regulations providing for the issuance of a license by endorsement to engage in an occupation or profession in this State to any natural person who:

(a) Holds a corresponding valid and unrestricted license to engage in that occupation or profession in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States;

(b) Possesses qualifications that are substantially similar to the qualifications required for issuance of a license to engage in that occupation or profession in this State; and

(c) Satisfies the requirements of this section and the regulations adopted pursuant thereto.

2. The regulations adopted pursuant to subsection 1 must not allow the issuance of a license by endorsement to engage in an occupation or profession in this State to a natural person unless such a person:

(a) Has not been disciplined by the corresponding regulatory authority of the District of Columbia or any state or territory in which the applicant currently holds or has held a license to engage in an occupation or profession;

(b) Has not been held civilly or criminally liable in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States for misconduct relating to his or her occupation or profession;

(c) Has not had a license to engage in an occupation or profession suspended or revoked in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States;

(d) Has not been refused a license to engage in an occupation or profession in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States for any reason;

(e) Does not have pending any disciplinary action concerning his or her license to engage in an occupation or profession in the District of Columbia or any state or territory of the United States;

(f) Pays any applicable fees for the issuance of a license that are otherwise required for a natural person to obtain a license in this State;

(g) Submits to the regulatory body a complete set of his or her fingerprints and written permission authorizing the regulatory body to forward the fingerprints to the Central Repository for Nevada Records of Criminal History for submission to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for its report or proof that the applicant has previously passed a comparable criminal background check; and

(h) Submits to the regulatory body the statement required by NRS 425.520.

3. A regulatory body may, by regulation, require an applicant for issuance of a license by endorsement to engage in an occupation or profession in this State to submit with his or her application:

(a) Proof satisfactory to the regulatory body that the applicant:

(1) Has achieved a passing score on a nationally recognized, nationally accredited or nationally certified examination or other examination approved by the regulatory body;

(2) Has completed the requirements of an appropriate vocational, academic or professional program of study in the occupation or profession for which the applicant is seeking a license by endorsement in this State;

(3) Has engaged in the occupation or profession for which the applicant is seeking a

license by endorsement in this State pursuant to the applicant's existing licensure for the period determined by the regulatory body preceding the date of the application; and

(4) Possesses a sufficient degree of competency in the occupation or profession for which he or she is seeking licensure by endorsement in this State;

(b) An affidavit stating that the information contained in the application and any accompanying material is true and complete; and

(c) Any other information required by the regulatory body.

4. Not later than 21 business days after receiving an application for a license by endorsement to engage in an occupation or profession pursuant to this section, the regulatory body shall provide written notice to the applicant of any additional information required by the regulatory body to consider the application. Unless the regulatory body denies the application for good cause, the regulatory body shall approve the application and issue a license by endorsement to engage in the occupation or profession to the applicant not later than:

(a) Sixty days after receiving the application;

(b) If the regulatory body requires an applicant to submit fingerprints and authorize the preparation of a report on the applicant's background based on the submission of the applicant's fingerprints, 15 days after the regulatory body receives the report; or

(c) If the regulatory body requires the filing and maintenance of a bond as a requirement for the issuance of a license, 15 days after the filing of the bond with the regulatory body, whichever occurs later.

5. A license by endorsement to engage in an occupation or profession in this State issued pursuant to this section may be issued at a meeting of the regulatory body or between its meetings by the presiding member of the regulatory body and the executive head of the regulatory body. Such an action shall be deemed to be an action of the regulatory body.

6. A regulatory body may deny an application for licensure by endorsement if:

(a) An applicant willfully fails to comply with the provisions of paragraph (g) of subsection 2; or

(b) The report from the Federal Bureau of Investigation indicates that the applicant has been convicted of a crime that would be grounds for taking disciplinary action against the applicant as a licensee and the regulatory body has not previously taken disciplinary action against the licensee based on that conviction.

7. The provisions of this section are intended to supplement other provisions of statute governing licensure by endorsement. If any provision of statute conflicts with this section, the other provision of statute prevails over this section to the extent that the other provisions provide more specific requirements relating to licensure by endorsement.

(Added to NRS by 2017, 3510; A 2019, 4257)

## **BACKGROUND:**

In response to the Governor's Executive Order 2012-11 to provide reciprocity to members of the Armed Forces and their spouses, the Board submitted a bill draft request at the 2013 & 2015 legislative sessions. Both times, for reasons unknown, our bill was not accepted. Here is the language we submitted:

Proposed amendments by Peggy Elias are highlighted in green.

NRS 656.XXX "Temporary Certificate of Registration" means a certificate to practice court reporting issued to a person on a temporary basis under the provisions of this chapter.

NRS 656.XXX Temporary certificate of registration

1. Any person may, with the approval of the Board, practice court reporting on a temporary basis [when there is an acknowledged unavailability of] as a certified court reporter or who is a spouse of an active-duty member of the United States Armed Forces. A person requesting the approval of the Board to practice court reporting on a temporary basis shall submit to the Board:

a) An application with the Executive Secretary of the Board. The application must be accompanied by a fee of \$100 and all information as required under NRS 656.150 and NRS 656.180

b) Documentation or other proof that the person has at least one continuous year of experience working full-time in the practice of court reporting; and

c) A copy of one of the following:

2. The certification as a Registered Professional Reporter, Registered Merit Reporter or Certified Realtime Reporter issued to the person by the National Court Reporters Association;

2) The certification as a Registered Merit Reporter issued to the person by the National Court Reporters Association;

3) A valid certificate or license to practice court reporting issued to the person by another state that has substantially equivalent licensing requirements to the licensing requirements in Nevada.

24) A certificate as a Certified Verbatim Reporter issued to the person by the National Verbatim Reporters Association.

2. A temporary certificate of registration shall be renewed on or before January 2 of the succeeding year, upon payment of the required fee, for a period not to exceed thirty-six (36) 12 months after being issued.

3. A person who is granted a temporary certificate of registration shall take an written examination until each portion of said examination is passed in accordance with NRS 656.160 and NRS 656.170.

4. If a person granted a temporary certificate of registration does not pass each portion of the written examination within thirty-six (36) 12 months after the certificate is issued, the court reporter will no longer be eligible for a temporary certificate of registration.

5. A person issued a temporary certificate of registration shall comply with the provisions set forth in NRS 656 and NAC 656 and all applicable laws, regulations and court procedural rules governing court reporters.

6. To the extent applicable, the Board will apply the applicable laws, regulations and court procedural rules governing court reporters, including, without limitation, suspension or revocation of a certificate, to a person holding a temporary certificate of registration as the Board applies those statutes and regulation to court reporters.

7. A person holding a temporary certificate of registration may administer oaths and affirmations in accordance with NRS 656.315.

## Additional language for consideration:

• AB 439 and AB 357 was introduced at the last session, proposing reduced fees for veterans and military affiliated individuals – both bills did not pass. However, many Boards have taken the initiative to enact reduced fees without being "required" through legislation. Will the Board consider reduced fees?