By the Committees on Military Affairs, Space, and Domestic Security; and Health Regulation; and Senators Altman and Evers

583-02939-11 20111228c2

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to temporary certificates and licenses for certain health care practitioners; amending s. 456.024, F.S.; providing for issuance of a temporary license to specified health care practitioners who are spouses of active duty members of the Armed Forces under certain circumstances; providing for criminal history checks; providing fees; providing for expiration of a temporary license; requiring a person who is issued a temporary license to be subject to certain general licensing requirements; providing that certain persons are ineligible for such license; providing for revocation of such license; requiring certain temporary licensees to practice under the indirect supervision of other licensees; amending ss. 458.315 and 459.0076, F.S.; naming the temporary certificates issued to physicians who practice in areas of critical need after Rear Admiral LeRoy Collins, Jr.; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Subsection (3) is added to section 456.024, Florida Statutes, to read:

456.024 Members of Armed Forces in good standing with administrative boards or the department; spouses.—

(3) (a) The board, or the department if there is no board, may issue a temporary professional license to the spouse of an active duty member of the Armed Forces of the United States who

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submits to the department:

- 1. A completed application upon a form prepared and furnished by the department in accordance with the board's rules;
 - 2. The required application fee;
- 3. Proof that the applicant is married to a member of the Armed Forces of the United States who is on active duty;
- 4. Proof that the applicant holds a valid license for the profession issued by another state, the District of Columbia, or a possession or territory of the United States, and is not the subject of any disciplinary proceeding in any jurisdiction in which the applicant holds a license to practice a profession regulated by this chapter;
- 5. Proof that the applicant's spouse is assigned to a duty station in this state pursuant to the member's official active duty military orders; and
- 6. Proof that the applicant would otherwise be entitled to full licensure under the appropriate practice act, and is eligible to take the respective licensure examination as required in Florida.
- (b) The applicant must also submit to the Department of Law Enforcement a complete set of fingerprints. The Department of Law Enforcement shall conduct a statewide criminal history check and forward the fingerprints to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal history check.
- (c) Each board, or the department if there is no board, shall review the results of the state and federal criminal history checks according to the level 2 screening standards in s. 435.04 when granting an exemption and when granting or

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denying the temporary license.

- (d) The applicant shall pay the cost of fingerprint processing. If the fingerprints are submitted through an authorized agency or vendor, the agency or vendor shall collect the required processing fees and remit the fees to the Department of Law Enforcement.
- (e) The department shall set an application fee, which may not exceed the cost of issuing the license.
- (f) A temporary license expires 12 months after the date of issuance and is not renewable.
- (g) An applicant for a temporary license under this subsection is subject to the requirements under s. 456.013(3)(a) and (c).
- (h) An applicant shall be deemed ineligible for a temporary license pursuant to this section if the applicant:
- 1. Has been convicted of or pled nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, any felony or misdemeanor related to the practice of a health care profession;
- 2. Has had a health care provider license revoked or suspended from another of the United States, the District of Colombia, or a United States Territory;
- 3. Has been reported to the National Practitioner Data

 Bank, unless the applicant has successfully appealed to have his or her name removed from the data bank; or
- 4. Has previously failed the Florida examination required to receive a license to practice the profession for which the applicant is seeking a license.
- (i) The board, or department if there is no board, may revoke a temporary license upon finding that the individual

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violated the profession's governing practice act.

(j) An applicant who is issued a temporary professional license to practice as a dentist pursuant to this section must practice under the indirect supervision, as defined in s. 466.003, of a dentist licensed pursuant to chapter 466.

Section 2. Present subsections (1) through (4) of section 458.315, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (2) through (5), respectively, and a new subsection (1) is added to that section, to read:

458.315 Temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need.—

(1) A certificate issued pursuant to this section may be cited as the "Rear Admiral LeRoy Collins, Jr., Temporary Certificate for Practice in Areas of Critical Need."

Section 3. Present subsections (1) through (4) of section 459.0076, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (2) through (5), respectively, and a new subsection (1) is added to that section, to read:

459.0076 Temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need.—

(1) A certificate issued pursuant to this section may be cited as the "Rear Admiral LeRoy Collins, Jr., Temporary Certificate for Practice in Areas of Critical Need."

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.