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Health, Human Services and Medicaid  
Judiciary  
Joint Education Oversight Committee

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State Senator  
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**Senate Bill 7 Testimony**  
**February 20, 2019**

Chairman McColley, Vice Chair Uecker, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Senate Transportation, Commerce, and Workforce Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify on Senate Bill 7.

S.B. 7, formerly S.B. 320 from the 132nd General Assembly, will create a straightforward process for members of the military and spouses to receive licensing reciprocity. My joint sponsor Senator Hackett and I are legislators from the Dayton area so we see firsthand the impact that Wright-Patterson Air Force base has on our constituents and our economy. Our servicemen, servicewomen, and their spouses are vital to not only the Dayton region but on statewide and national scales as well.

Specifically, this bill will require state occupational licensing agencies to issue temporary licenses to military members and their spouses if they are already licensed elsewhere and have moved to Ohio on active duty. The bill would require members and spouses to hold a valid license and be in good standing. They must also show proof that they or their spouses are members of the military and on active duty in Ohio.

This legislation would also require state licensing agencies to annually verify the standing of the licenses issued by the other states for each person that was issued a temporary license. Temporary licenses can be refused revoked for several reasons, including: if the individuals are not in good standing, have a criminal record, have had adverse action taken against them by a health care institution, or are no longer eligible for the temporary license. Temporary licenses must be free of charge and the director of Administrative Services must prepare a report on the number and type of temporary licenses or certificates that were issued during the fiscal year and provide them to the director of the Department of Veterans Services.

A person being issued the temporary license can only practice their profession in Ohio within the scope of practice that the other state permits, provided that the practice is within the scope of practice in Ohio but only to the extent that they have been trained in a procedure if they possess a medical license.

I would like to note that the only change S.B. 7 makes from the as passed by the Senate version of S.B. 320 is that the temporary license would last for three years instead of one. Senate Bill 320 passed the Senate unanimously in December.

Our military families have given and sacrificed much in service to our country. By eliminating this regulatory barrier, we will be able to take a little less worry off of them as they transition to Ohio for active duty. I would appreciate your support for this legislation and I would be happy to take any questions.