



## At a Glance:

A new initiative that supports relocated military spouses by facilitating their full participation in the labor force.

# CAREER RECIPROCITY: MILITARY SPOUSES



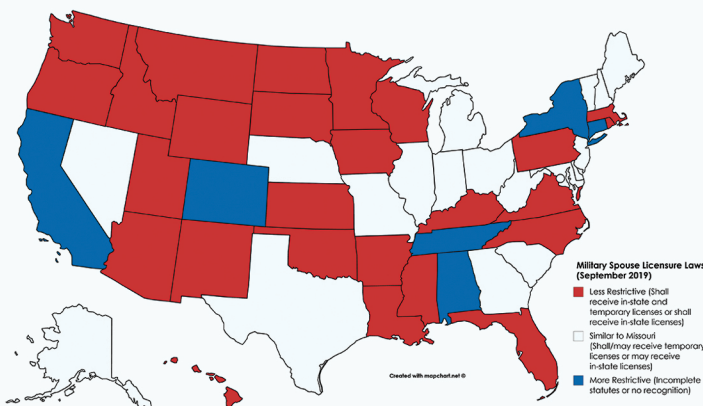
### Background:

Military spouses face considerable challenges when they move with their active duty partner. Due to state variance in licensing criteria such as education and training, spouses with occupational licenses struggle to practice their profession in states where they are not residents. This problem is made worse by the fact that active duty personnel often relocate.

Currently, Missouri has significant barriers impeding military spouse licensure. SB 673 and HB 1511 will lessen spouses' burden by allowing them to practice their occupation. Notably, this legislation is a result of Governor Parson's broader focus on workforce development.

### Opportunity:

SB 673 and HB 1511 will support military spouses by permitting them to receive an equivalent license in Missouri providing that the requirements from their home state are substantially similar to, or more stringent, than Missouri's requirements.



### Potential Impact:

- Military families will face less stress when relocating to Missouri.
- Military spouses will be better equipped to work in their preferred occupation.

**35%** OF MILITARY SPOUSES  
WORK IN A FIELD THAT  
REQUIRES A LICENSE<sup>i</sup>



**45%** OF MILITARY SPOUSES  
ARE CONCERNED  
ABOUT THEIR EMPLOYMENT<sup>ii</sup>

**52%** OF FAMILIES  
CONSIDER SPOUSE  
UN/UNDEREMPLOYMENT  
AS THEIR TOP  
FINANCIAL OBSTACLE<sup>iii</sup>



**24%** OF ACTIVE-DUTY  
CIVILIAN SPOUSES  
ARE UNEMPLOYED<sup>iv</sup>

MILITARY SPOUSE UNEMPLOYMENT  
IS BETWEEN **10% - 16%**<sup>v</sup>

<sup>i</sup> <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/Military-Spouses-in-the-Labor-Market.pdf>

<sup>ii</sup> [https://bluestararm.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/2018MFLS-Comprehensive-Infographic\\_v2.pdf](https://bluestararm.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/2018MFLS-Comprehensive-Infographic_v2.pdf)

<sup>iii</sup> Ibid.

<sup>iv</sup> <https://download.militaryonesource.mil/12038/MOS/Reports/2017-demographics-report.pdf>

<sup>v</sup> Ibid.



### Policy Contact

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