



Oregon

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Board of Nursing

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Before the
House Committee on Veterans' Services and Emergency Preparedness

HB 2037

The Oregon State Board of Nursing wishes to submit testimony regarding House Bill 2037. The purpose of the bill is to require health regulatory boards to issue qualified military spouses/domestic partners authorization to practice in Oregon.

The Board is generally supportive of HB 2037 as written to establish an expedited licensure process. It would be desirable, however, if language could be included that establishes an expectation that the applicant should provide any remaining required supporting documentation within 30 days after issuance of the expedited license, in order for the Board to meet the definition of completed application established in rule.

Currently, in addition to passing a national criminal background check, endorsement applicants must submit:

- a completed licensure application,
- the appropriate fee,
- proof of appropriate education via a transcript,
- proof of licensure in another state or jurisdiction,
- proof of successful passage of the national licensure exam,
- verification that they meet the practice requirement of 960 hours within five years.

Once all the elements have been received in the Board office, licenses are usually granted within three-to-five business days. The Board wants to support our military, their spouses, and partners by meeting their needs as quickly as possible, and is willing to delay the two elements that typically take the most time: the criminal background check via fingerprinting and the official transcript. This could be accomplished through rule.

The Board would be glad to answer any questions the Committee may have or work with the Committee on any desired amendments. Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on House Bill 2037.