



Bill Snapshot

CS/HB 29: Military and Veterans Affairs

A military and veteran presence will forever be important to our state. These brave men and women not only place themselves in harm’s way to protect our freedom and liberty, they are also a stable and significant force in Florida’s growing economy.

We are grateful to those courageous Floridians who have made the selfless decision to serve our country. We will never be able to repay them for the sacrifices they have made, but in an effort to express our gratitude, CS/HB 29 will provide allowances for military members, veterans, and their spouses by expanding or creating fee waivers and select regulatory waivers for certain military-related professional licensees.

Highlights of the CS/HB 29 are below. Please refer to the bill text and analysis for more detailed information.

For professional licenses, the bill:

- Expands some of the current initial licensing fee waivers for DBPR.
- Expands some of the current initial licensing fee waivers and grants a renewal fee waiver for DACS.
- Creates an initial licensing fee waiver and a renewal fee waiver for OFR.
- Provides relief from pre-licensure insurance coursework requirements and expands initial licensure fee waivers for DFS.
- Expands the expedited licensure application process and waives certain fees for spouses who practices dentistry for DOH.
- Waives certain educator initial licensing fees and establishes a pathway for veteran officers for certification as a school principal at DOE.

The bill also:

- Requires DOE to educate veterans about apprenticeship and career opportunities.
- Allows Junior Reserve Officer Training instructors to participate in the Florida Teachers Classroom Supply Assistance Program.
- Gives priority for attendance in Florida Virtual School to children of an out of state active duty member whose legal residence is Florida.
- Designates March 25 every year as “Medal of Honor Day” in Florida schools and encourages related classroom discussion.
- Expands eligibility for receiving training grants and administering entrepreneurship programs under Florida Is For Veterans, Inc.

LAST SEEN:

Reported favorably as a committee substitute out of Commerce Committee

Sponsor:
Rep. Ponder

CURRENT STATUS:

Local, Federal, & Veterans Affairs Subcommittee

HEADED TO:

Appropriations Committee