

2023 Legislative Affairs Updates for the OCC Website for 1st Quarter

The Major Richard Star Act

Congress fails to pass the Major Richard Star Act before the end of 2022. Senate Bill 344, which would amend title 10, United States Code, was introduced in the Senate (02/22/2021). This bill would allow a veteran with a combat-related disability and fewer than 20 years of creditable service. The Star Act did reach the significant 290-sponsor milestone to earn entry on the House consensus calendar in 2022, and will have to be reintroduced. Update: Act SB:344 was reintroduced into Congress on 02/09/2023. It has been read twice and referred to the Committee on Armed Services. To date, there has been no Senate vote and no House vote. When signed into law, the act would fix federal policy that prevented thousands of severely wounded combat veterans from receiving their earned retirements. This unjust policy states that if a veteran is separated from the service due to combat related injuries — before completing 20 credible years — the federal government will keep the veteran's earned retirement. allowing a veteran, with combat-related injuries and fewer than 20 credible years, to receive his or her earned retirement.

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Defense-State Liaison Office

<https://statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil/about>

The Defense-State Liaison Office provides state policymakers with expert insight on issues affecting military families and their quality of life. This initiative is part of the Defense Department's efforts to identify and address the most pressing needs of service members and military families. As a trusted resource, DSLO:

- Provides reliable information and research,
- Shares knowledge of policies and process,
- Offers assistance with legislation at the state level.

State of Ohio - Latest Statistics (Data source: DMDC, Dec. 31, 2022).

State residents include:

- 9,658 active-duty service members
- 4,525 active-duty spouses
- 9,835 active-duty children
- 35,241 National Guard and reserve members
- 15,159 National Guard and reserve spouses
- 23,654 National Guard and reserve children

The New Ohio DoD-State Liaison is Sean Preston, Email
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Key Issues <https://statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil/state/OH>

1. Military Spouse Occupational Licensure Access House/Senate passed **Enacted**
03/24/2021

2. Licensing Compacts 6/14 Sub-issues passed.

- **Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact** **No Action**
- **Audiology/Speech-Language Pathology Interstate Compact** **07/01/2021 Final Legislation**
- **Cosmetology Licensure Compact**
- **03/23/2023 SB 89**
- **Dental and Dental Hygienist Compact**
- **01/30/2023 SB 40**
- **Emergency Medical Services Licensure Compact** **No Action**
- **Interstate Massage Therapy Compact**
- **02/14/2023 SB 56**
- **Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact**
- **01/23/2023 SB 27**
- **Licensed Professional Counseling Compact Final Legislation** **06/14/2022 Final Legislation**
- **Nurse Licensure Compact** **07/01/2021 Final Legislation**
- **Occupational Therapy Licensure Compact** **03/31/2021 Final Legislation**
- **Physical Therapy Licensure Compact** **03/31/2021 Final Legislation**
- **Physician Associates Compact**
- **01/23/2023 SB 28**
- **Psychology Interjurisdictional Compact** **04/27/2021 Final Legislation**
- **Social Work Licensure Compact**
- **03/23/2023 SB 90**

3. Purple Star Schools Program **04/25/2017 Final Legislation**

4. Open Enrollment Flexibility **No Action by House or Senate**

5. Child Abuse Identification and Reporting **09/29/2021 Final Legislation**

6. Concurrent Juvenile Jurisdiction **No Action by House or Senate**

7. Licensure Exemptions for Military Family Child Care Providers **No Action by House or Senate**

8. Defining Armed Forces **No Action by House or Senate**

9. Military and Family Life Counselor Licensure Waiver **No Action by House or Senate**

For Key Issues Narratives, go to this weblink to read about each issue.

<https://statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil/>

Former House Representative Rick Perales, Retired LtC USAF, now County Commissioner for Greene County recommends we contact Representative Brian E. Lampton District 70, email REP70@ohiohouse.gov, or www.ohiohouse.gov/brian-e-lampton

Commissioner Perales says that Representative Lampton, while not having served in the US military, is an ardent supporter of our Uniformed Services and their families. Contact his office by phone (614) 644-6020 or Fax (614) 719-397

Ohio HB126

USPHS and NOAA personnel have been excluded because the current definition in section 718.01 '*Definitions*' of the Revised Code, State of Ohio only refers to 'Armed Services'. Proposed House Bill 126 would change the language to be inclusive of the 'Uniformed Services'. See wording proposed change in HB126 below.

Staffers in Representative Adam Miller's office recommend we ask our members and others to contact their representatives asking them to support HB126, and additionally asking that they consider adding their name as a Cosponsor. A list of all the State representatives (House and Senate) with email addresses, and key personnel in each governing body is attached. We hope our Chapter members act to support their fellow service members.

Update: This bill is currently in the House of representatives Ways and Means Committee for Review. If you wish to send a letter of support, send it to the Chief House Representatives on the Ways and Means Committee.

Honorable Bill Roemer
Chair, Ways and Means Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street
Floor 11
Columbus, OH 43215

Honorable Daniel P. Troy
Ranking Member, Ways and Means Committee
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