**A** **BILL**

TO AMEND THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, BY ADDING SECTION 40‑11‑295 SO AS TO DIRECT THE SOUTH CAROLINA CONTRACTORS LICENSING BOARD TO ISSUE ELECTRICAL SUBCLASSIFICATION CERTIFICATIONS TO APPLICANTS WHO HAVE ACHIEVED CERTAIN ELECTRICAL DESIGNATIONS BY THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WHEN ALL OTHER REQUIREMENTS ARE MET; AND BY ADDING SECTION 44‑6‑120 SO AS TO DIRECT THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES TO ISSUE CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT CERTIFICATES TO APPLICANTS WHO HAVE ACHIEVED CERTAIN COMBAT MEDIC DESIGNATIONS BY THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WHEN ALL OTHER REQUIREMENTS ARE MET; TO AMEND SECTION 40‑33‑32, RELATING TO THE LICENSURE OF NURSES, SO AS TO DIRECT THE BOARD TO ISSUE REGISTERED NURSE LICENSES TO APPLICANTS WHO HAVE ACHIEVED CERTAIN MEDICAL DESIGNATIONS BY THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WHEN ALL OTHER REQUIREMENTS ARE MET; TO AMEND SECTIONS 40‑49‑60 AND 40‑49‑320, BOTH RELATING TO EXAMINATION FOR CERTIFICATION AS A PLUMBER, SO AS TO REQUIRE LOCAL BOARD OF EXAMINERS TO ISSUE CERTIFICATES TO APPLICANTS WHO HAVE ACHIEVED CERTAIN PLUMBING DESIGNATIONS BY THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WHEN ALL OTHER REQUIREMENTS ARE MET; TO AMEND SECTION 40‑59‑220, RELATING TO CERTIFICATIONS OF RESIDENTIAL SPECIALTY SUBCONTRACTORS, SO AS TO DIRECT THE COMMISSION TO ISSUE RESIDENTIAL SPECIALTY CERTIFICATIONS WITH ELECTRICAL CLASSIFICATIONS TO APPLICANTS WHO HAVE ACHIEVED CERTAIN ELECTRICAL DESIGNATIONS BY THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES WHEN ALL OTHER REQUIREMENTS ARE MET; AND TO AMEND SECTION 40‑59‑240, RELATING TO EXEMPTIONS FROM LOCAL EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS OF RESIDENTIAL SPECIALTY CONTRACTORS, SO AS TO MAKE A CONFORMING CHANGE.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. Article 1, Chapter 11, Title 40 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 40‑11‑295. Notwithstanding the examination provisions of Section 40‑11‑230(A), the board shall grant a certificate as a qualifying party with an electrical subclassification to an applicant who has received designation by the United States Army as a 12R Electrician, or the functional equivalent of a 12R in one of the other United States Armed Forces if the applicant complies with all other certification requirements of this chapter.”

SECTION 2. Article 1, Chapter 6, Title 44 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:

“Section 44‑6‑120. The department shall issue a certificate to a certified nursing assistant applicant who has received designation by the United States Army as a 68W Combat Medic Specialist, or the functional equivalent of a 68W in one of the other United States Armed Forces, if the applicant complies with all other certification requirements of the department.”

SECTION 3. Section 40‑33‑32 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding an appropriately lettered subsection at the end to read:

“( ) The board shall issue a license to an applicant who has received designation by the United States Army as a 66H Surgical Nurse, or the functional equivalent of a 66H in one of the other United States Armed Forces, if the applicant complies with all other certification requirements of the board.”

SECTION 4. Section 40‑49‑60 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 40‑49‑60. Each such board of examiners shall designate the time and place for the examination of all persons desiring to secure a certificate as herein provided for. Each such applicant ~~shall~~ must be compelled to pass such examination as to his qualifications as such board may direct. Such examination ~~shall~~ must be made in whole or in part in writing, and ~~shall~~ must be of a practical and elementary character, but sufficiently strict to test the qualifications of the applicant. The board of examiners shall issue a certificate to an applicant who has received designation by the United States Army as a 12K Plumber, or the functional equivalent of a 12K in one of the other United States Armed Forces, if the applicant complies with all other certification requirements of the board.”

SECTION 5. Section 40‑49‑320 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“Section 40‑49‑320. Each board of plumbing examiners created under this article shall designate the time and place for the examination of all persons desiring to secure a certificate as herein provided for. Each applicant ~~shall~~ must be compelled to pass such examination as to his qualifications as such respective boards may direct. Such examinations ~~shall~~ must be made in whole or in part in writing and ~~shall~~ must be of a practical and elementary character, but sufficiently strict to test the qualifications of the applicant. The board of examiners shall issue a certificate to an applicant who has received designation by the United States Army as a 12K Plumber, or the functional equivalent of a 12K in one of the other United States Armed Forces, if the applicant complies with all other certification requirements of the board.”

SECTION 6. Section 40‑59‑220 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding an appropriately lettered subsection at the end to read:

“( ) Notwithstanding the examination provisions of subsection (C) and Section 40‑59‑240(A) and (B), the commission shall issue a residential specialty certificate with an electrical classification to an applicant who has received designation by the United States Army as a 12R Electrician, or the functional equivalent of a 12R in one of the other United States Armed Forces upon payment of the applicable fee and posting of any applicable bond.”

SECTION 7. Section 40‑59‑240(C) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(C) Residential specialty contractors are not exempt from complying with county and municipal business license ordinances or other regulatory ordinances. A county or municipality may require a residential specialty contractor to be examined and licensed in accordance with standards adopted by the county or municipality; however, ~~if~~ no additional examination may be required by a county or municipality for:

(1) a residential specialty contractor who has been issued residential specialty license with an electrical classification on the basis of having received designation by the United States Army as a 12R Electrician, or the functional equivalent of a 12R in one of the other United States Armed Forces; or

(2) a residential specialty contractor who has passed an examination in his area of contracting and approved by the commission, no additional examination may be required by a county or municipality.”

SECTION 8. This act takes effect upon approval by the Governor.

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