

2024 -- H 7184

LC004041

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2024

A N A C T

RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- VETERANS' AFFAIRS-  
MILITARY SPOUSE LIAISON

Introduced By: Representatives Vella-Wilkinson, Batista, Hull, Kazarian, Azzinaro,  
Noret, Ackerman, Morales, and Shanley

Date Introduced: January 11, 2024

Referred To: House Veterans` Affairs

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 30-17.1 of the General Laws entitled "Veterans' Affairs" is hereby  
2 amended by adding thereto the following section:

3 **30-17.1-14. Military spouse liaison; Position created; Duties; Report.**

4 (a) There is created, in the office of veteran's services, the position of military spouse  
5 liaison to conduct outreach and advocate on behalf of military spouses in the state.

6 (b) The military spouse liaison shall:

7 (1) Provide assistance and information to military spouses seeking professional licenses  
8 and credentials or other employment in the state;

9 (2) Coordinate research on issues facing military spouses and create informational  
10 materials to assist military spouses and their families;

11 (3) Partner with the Rhode Island National Guard Family Assistance Center and the US  
12 Navy local Fleet and Family Support Program (FFSP) to arrange for resources, support services,  
13 and enrichment programs for military dependents and not solely provide referrals for Military  
14 OneSource;

15 (4) Examine barriers and provide recommendations to assist military spouses in accessing  
16 high-quality child care and developing resources in coordination with military installations and the  
17 state department of education to increase access to high-quality child care for military families;

18 (5) Develop, in coordination with the department of labor, a common form for military

1 [spouses to complete, highlighting specific skills, education, and training to help military spouses](#)  
2 [quickly find meaningful employment in relevant economic sectors; and](#)  
3 [\(6\) Perform any other duties or responsibilities assigned by the director of veteran's](#)  
4 [services.](#)

5 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION  
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL  
OF

A N A C T

RELATING TO MILITARY AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE -- VETERANS' AFFAIRS-  
MILITARY SPOUSE LIAISON

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- 1           This act would establish the position of military spouse liaison, in the office of veteran's
- 2 services, to conduct outreach and advocate on behalf of military spouses in the state.
- 3           This act would take effect upon passage.

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