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Representative Christine Hunschofsky and Senator Janet Cruz File Legislation to Keep Military Spouses Working

Tallahassee, FL—Representative Christine Hunschofsky (D-Parkland) and Senator Janet Cruz (D-Tampa) filed [House Bill 559](#) and [Senate Bill 562](#), Military Occupational Licensure, which requires state agencies to expedite professional license applications submitted by spouses of active duty members of the United States Armed Forces and waive the required fees.

The legislation offers a military spouse, who is already licensed in another state, the opportunity to have their application for the same or similar license in Florida expedited so that they can work in their chosen profession while their spouse is serving our country. They will receive a temporary professional license until their license is approved, and their application fee will be waived.

"Military families get uprooted often, and in many of those cases, military spouses find themselves unable to work because of the wait time for their professional license registration in the new state," said **Representative Hunschofsky**. "By waiving the fee, expediting the process, and granting a temporary license to practice their vocation, we are making life and finances just a little easier for our military families, continuing Florida's goal of being the most military-friendly state in the United States."

Senator Cruz said that "due to the nature of work in the military, families are frequently ordered to relocate to military posts across the world. These frequent moves compound an already high unemployment rate for military spouses, who faced a 22% unemployment rate pre-COVID-19. This bill will prioritize the licensure applications of military spouses, waive their licensing fees, and offer temporary bridge-licenses to get them credentialed and able to participate in Florida's workforce."

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