

Military and Veterans

S.B. 7

Primary Sponsors: Sens. Lehner and Hackett

Effective date: April 28, 2020

- Requires state occupational licensing agencies, under certain circumstances, to issue temporary licenses or certificates to members of the military (and their spouses) who are licensed in another jurisdiction and are on military duty in Ohio.
- Requires the individual to obtain a criminal records check if the Ohio licensing agency requires a check under the law governing the trade or profession.
- Requires a licensing agency to verify the standing of a license or certificate issued by another state or jurisdiction when the temporary license is up for renewal.
- Requires a licensing agency to deny or revoke a temporary license or certificate in certain circumstances.
- Requires a licensing agency to waive all fees associated with a temporary license or certificate.
- Authorizes a licensing agency to issue a regular license or certificate in lieu of a temporary license or certificate.
- Stipulates that licenses issued under the act are subject to the same laws that otherwise apply to licenses.
- Requires a licensing agency to prepare an annual report regarding the number and type of temporary licenses or certificates it issued.

S.B. 52

Primary Sponsor: Sen. Gavarone

Effective date: January 24, 2020; appropriations effective October 25, 2019

Ohio Cyber Reserve

- Requires the Governor to organize and maintain state civilian cyber security reserve forces, known as the Ohio Cyber Reserve, to protect government, critical infrastructure, businesses, and citizens from cyber attacks.
- Makes the Reserve part of, and Reserve members civilian volunteers for, the Ohio organized militia under the Adjutant General's department.

- Permits the Reserve to become a civilian component of the Ohio National Guard, but does not authorize the Reserve to be called into national military service.
- Prescribes eligibility requirements for Reserve members.
- Treats Reserve members on state active duty similarly to other members of the Ohio organized militia.
- Requires the Adjutant General to establish Reserve members' rates of pay in state active duty and requires Reserve members to serve in unpaid volunteer status while training.
- Specifies procedures for the Governor to remove Reserve members.
- Allows the Governor to adopt rules governing the Reserve, and requires a copy of the rules to be publicly available in the Adjutant General's office.
- Permits the Governor, for Reserve use, to requisition equipment from the U.S. Department of Defense and make available state armory facilities, equipment, and other premises and property.
- Specifies that members of the Reserve are entitled to the same liability protections as members of the Ohio organized militia.
- Appropriates \$100,000 for FY 2020 and \$550,000 for FY 2021 to the Adjutant General to operate the Reserve.

Eligibility for militias

- Allows a person who is permanently handicapped or who is not between ages 17 and 67 to serve in the Ohio organized militia if the person meets the eligibility requirements for the particular branch in which the person serves.
- Permits the Adjutant General to excuse a person from duty in the organized or unorganized militia if the person is unable to serve because of a disability.

Homeland Security Advisory Council

- Makes the Secretary of State a member of the Homeland Security Advisory Council in the Department of Public Safety.

Secretary of State – information security officer

- Requires the Secretary of State to appoint a chief information security officer to advise the Secretary on matters of information security.

Audits of election results

- Requires a board of elections to audit the official results of every general election and of every primary election held in even-numbered years.
- Provides the minimum requirements and a timeline for the audit, and requires the Secretary of State to prescribe certain procedures for the audit.

- Specifies that the audit must use a risk-limiting audit protocol, a percentage-based audit protocol, or another protocol approved by the Secretary, and allows the Secretary to either choose the protocol the boards must use or permit the boards to choose a protocol.
- Requires the audit to be open to observers appointed under the Election Law.
- Appropriates \$75,000 for each of FYs 2020 and 2021 to the Secretary to reimburse boards for costs incurred to conduct the audit.