



April 29, 2019

House Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness

Reference: SB 688

Dear Chair Evans and members of the House Committee on Veterans and Emergency Preparedness,

On behalf of USAA (United Services Automobile Association), we ask for your support of SB 688, Occupational Licensing Reciprocity. SB 688 will enable professionals with certifications in other states to work in Oregon without significant hurdles — supporting military spouses and those who move frequently for other reasons. Since 1922 USAA has provided insurance and banking services exclusively to our nation's military members and their families and has proudly supported efforts to hire military spouses and veterans.

SB 688 will greatly assist our military veterans and their spouses when they leave active duty military service, transition to civilian life, and choose to make Oregon their home state by removing licensing barriers. SB 688 proposes to expand the removal of these barriers to entering the workforce to all individuals choosing to make their residency here in our great state.

SB 688 directs state licensing agencies to accept a service member's spouse's out-of-state professional certification while the service member is stationed in Oregon if the person holds a license from another state, is in good standing with that out-of-state licensing board, and demonstrates competency. This well-crafted and thoughtful legislation ensures the individual is effectively trained and well-equipped to transition into the Oregon workforce, helping to strengthen Oregon's economy.

Please support SB 688 to help break down occupational barriers for Oregon's military families.

Thank you for your consideration of USAA's position on this matter.

Sincerely,

JulieAnna Anastassatos
Director, Government and Industry Relations
USAA