

**THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
RED LION HOTEL, HARRISBURG, PA
APRIL 6-7, 2019**

Resolution No. 1103

Submitted by: James Vollrath
Department Commander

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- WHEREAS, Pennsylvania Veterans are in need of employment after exiting the military; and
- WHEREAS, The Department of Defense (DOD) and the Pennsylvania National Guard (PNG) provides some of the best vocational training in the nation for its military personnel; and
- WHEREAS, DOD and PNG establishes, measures and evaluates performance standards for every occupation within the Armed Forces; and
- WHEREAS, there are many Military Occupational Specialties (MOS) in the Armed Forces that can easily translate to a civilian counterpart; and
- WHEREAS, there are many occupations in the civilian workforce that require a license or certification; and
- WHEREAS, In the Armed Forces, these unique MOS's are performed to approved military standards that may meet or exceed the civilian license or certification criteria; and
- WHEREAS, upon separation, many former military personnel, certified as proficient in their MOS, are not licensed or certified to perform the comparable job in the civilian Workforce, thus hindering chances for civilian employment and delaying career advancement; and
- WHEREAS, The American Legion backed *Veteran Skills to Jobs Act* was signed into law nationally by President Obama in 2012; and
- WHEREAS, thirty five (35) other states have adopted and implemented the *Veteran Skills to Jobs Act* at the state level; now, therefore, be it;

RESOLVED, by the Executive Committee of The American Legion, Department of Pennsylvania in regular session assembled at the Red Lion Hotel, Harrisburg, PA, April 6-7, 2019, That The Pennsylvania American Legion supports efforts to facilitate the licensing and or credentialing of any person who is a member of the active or reserve components of any branch or unit of the Armed Forces of the United States or a veteran who received an honorable discharge of any branch or unit of the Armed Forces of the United States who is or was regularly employed in a position in the Armed Forces of the United States requiring a skill set for which they were trained for that occupation that should easily be transferred to a civilian profession; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That The Pennsylvania American Legion supports efforts to eliminate employment barriers that impede the successful and timely transfer of

military job skills to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania civilian labor market; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That all Commonwealth stakeholders (i.e.: The Pennsylvania Senate and House, The Office of the Governor, The Department of Labor, The Department of Veterans and Military Affairs) take appropriate steps to ensure that service- members and veterans be trained, tested, evaluated and have the opportunity to obtain any credential (i.e.; licensure, certification, certificate, degree) that may be required by the Commonwealth to enter the civilian workforce; and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Assembly of our Commonwealth stakeholders (i.e.: The Pennsylvania Senate and House, pass legislation supporting and acknowledging trained professional service men and women to utilize the skills they receive while on active duty to a seamless transition into a civilian equivalent job; and be it finally

RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor and all the members of the Pennsylvania Senate and General Assembly.

APPROVED REJECTED REFERRED CONSOLIDATED
FILED