

HB 1316 -- MILITARY FAMILIES

SPONSOR: Sommer

This bill modifies provisions and creates new programs relating to military families.

LEGAL AID TO MILITARY AND FAMILIES

This bill requires the Attorney General to design, implement, and oversee a program to help military service members and their families find and retain affordable and qualified legal counsel in this state. The program will be marketed to attorneys, service members, and service members' families. The Attorney General will collaborate with the Missouri Bar in administering the program, and the program will publicize pro bono legal services available to military service members and their families (Section 27.115, RSMo).

TEACHER LICENSES

Currently, a spouse of a military service member is allowed a provisional teaching certificate if the applicant meets the current required criteria. This bill makes the provisional certificate valid for three years.

The bill requires that no later than 30 after receiving confirmation that an applicant for a full certificate of license to teach, who is a spouse of a member of the Armed Forces stationed in Missouri, has successfully completed the background check described in this bill, the state board must issue a full certificate of license to teach if the applicant has paid all necessary fees and has met all other requirements to be issued a certificate (Section 168.021).

MO HEALTHNET COVERAGE OF SERVICE MEMBERS' FAMILIES WITH DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

This bill extends MO Healthnet developmental disability services to military service members and their families stationed in Missouri that are not residents of this state, as long as they would otherwise be eligible. MO Healthnet developmental disability services to military service members and their families that are residents of this state, but temporarily reside out of the state, will have benefits temporarily suspended, but will be immediately restored upon returning to the state to reside (Section 208.151).

NOTIFICATION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE IN THE EVENT A MILITARY MEMBER IS A SUSPECT OF CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT

This bill requires the Children's Division within the Department of Social Services upon receipt of a report of child abuse to attempt to ascertain whether or not the suspected perpetrator is a member of the military, and the Children's Division must report its findings to the most relevant program authorized by the Department of Defense or the most relevant person authorized by the Department of Defense (Sections 210.109 and 210.150).