



OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
1500 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-1500

March 3, 2023

**MANPOWER AND
RESERVE AFFAIRS**

Chair, House Committee on Education
Room 218-N, State Capitol
300 SW 10th Ave.
Topeka, KS 66612

RE: Letter of Support – SB 66 (Interstate Teacher Mobility Compact)

Dear House Committee on Education Chair and Honorable Committee Members:

On behalf of military families and the Department of Defense, I am writing in support of the policy changes expressed in SB 66, a bill that address licensing issues affecting our Service members and their families. I would like to thank you for considering this issue in the 2023 session.

My name is Michelle Richart and I am an active duty military spouse and the Midwest Regional Liaison for the Defense-State Liaison Office, operating under the direction of Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, and the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Military Community and Family Policy. Our mission is to be a resource to state policymakers as they work to address quality of life issues of military families.

Licensure issues for both our transitioning military members and the spouses have been a priority for the Department for several years. States are now considering licensure compacts for several occupations. Occupational licensure compacts provide consistent rules that allow licensed members to work in other states through “privilege to practice policies”, or to more easily transfer their license to a new state. The military provisions added to these compacts assist military members and their spouses to participate in these occupational compacts.

As our military members and their families move from state-to-state, obtaining licenses in order to obtain employment is very important. These compacts will serve to relieve one of the many stressors of a military move.

We are grateful for the tremendous effort that Kansas has historically made to support our military members and their families and appreciate the opportunity to support the Interstate Teacher Military Compact reflected in SB 66. Again, thank you for your support of this issue. Please feel free to contact me with any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michelle Richart".

MICHELLE RICHART
Midwest Regional Liaison
Defense-State Liaison Office