

Dear Joe:

ND Appraisers' Update for the 2019 ND Legislative Session:

This week is cross over week in the ND Legislature. At the halfway point all Bills must be out of their House of origin or they are dead for the session.

Here is a summary of the Bills we are watching.

SB 2126 –Automatically gives a ND license to anyone with 7 years of experience as a licensed professional in another state for most ND professions including appraisers. Just about every State Board testified against the Bill. The Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee recommended 7-0 Do Not Pass. It failed to pass in the full Senate; yeas 2 nays 45. So this Bill which we opposed was defeated.

SB 2127 – This Bill requires ND state licensing Boards give military dependents, with a license in another state, a ND license and also exempts them from ND statues and rules pertaining to their occupation in ND. It went to the Floor from the Senate Government and Veterans Affairs Committee with a 7-0 Do Not Pass recommendation. On the floor it failed to pass 3 yeas and 44 nays. So this Bill which we opposed was defeated.

SB 2306. This Bill in its amended form requires state licensing boards to issue a license to military spouses who hold a valid license in another state. Unlike SB 2127 the licensee would be subject to all ND rules and regulations. This is a compromise Bill which allows military spouses to get a ND license in a timely manner and still protects the citizens and other professionals in the state. This will also put ND in compliance with the Department of Defense requirement for future mission basing decisions. SB 2306 was heavily amended with input from the professional boards. It came out of the Government and Veterans Affairs Committee Do Pass 7-0. On the Senate Floor it passed 47-0. This Bill now moves to the House where I expect there may be a few fine tuning amendments but I expect it will pass. As an aside one of the military spouses testifying noted how she has been a licensed counselor in nine states and it took over 9 months to get a license in ND. She explained step by step how onerous the process in ND is. This strongly motivated the Committee to support the Bill since many military families only spend two years in our state before being transferred. The Appraisal board testified against the Bill in its original format. We will monitor in the House.

SB 2259 – changes the way property sought to be condemned is valued. The Bill came out of the Senate Finance and Taxation Committee Do Not Pass 4-2. It failed in the Senates; yeas 20 and nays 25 so the Bill is defeated for the session.

Thanks

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