Necessary Workforce and Development: Military Spouses and Occupational Licensing

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Women In Government Leadership & Innovation Summit, November 2023

Dr. Mari Leavitt, Washington State House of Representatives
Rep. Josey Garcia, Texas House of Representatives
Jeremy Hilton, Defense State Liaison Office (AR, LA, MO, MS, OK, TX)
Initiatives that resonate: For Military Spouse Workforce

- Collaborate with Private Sector Hiring 400,000 veterans
- Purple Star Award Designation for School Districts WA SHB 1346
- Include Veteran or Military Spouse designee on state task forces WA 2SSB5263
- Military Spouse Employment Act WA 2HSB 1009
- State Compact licensures – Speech & Audiology, Mental Health, Dentist + Dental Hygienist, Nurses
- Implement a Legislative Joint Committee on Veterans Affairs
- Expand definition of Veterans for benefits - WA HB 1001
- Define Armed Forces in state policy
- Military Access to Quality Childcare
- Property Tax Exemptions and Expansions
- Building trades journey level certifications of competency WA ESSB5320
- Women In Government – Leadership & Innovation Summit, November 2023
- WA SHB 1001 Define Armed Forces in state policy
- WA 2SSB5263 Include Veteran or Military Spouse designee on state task forces
Necessary Workforce – Military Spouses

Legislators can build trust and inspire change

- Engage stakeholders to participate in dialogue with military spouses
- Shape public policy including regulations and legislation to support spouse transition, professionalism and family
- Include private, public and philanthropic sectors to collaborate on policy objectives sustainability, and community resilience
- Advise the legislature on economic and lifestyle benefits
- Partner to build new capabilities and businesses for growth and competitive advantage

Enabling Military Spouses to easily transition and be productive in new locations