

July 1, 2019

The Honorable Tom Cotton
United States Senate

The Honorable Susan Davis
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen
United States Senate

The Honorable Jim Banks
United States House of Representatives

The Honorable Martha McSally
United States Senate

Dear Senators Cotton, Shaheen and McSally and Representatives Davis and Banks:

On behalf of more than 300,000+ human resource (HR) professionals of the Society for Human Resource Management and the more than 115 million employees they impact, SHRM applauds your leadership in introducing S.1383/H.R. 2618, the Portable Certification of Spouses Act.

SHRM advocates for policies that enable employers to access skilled talent in today's tight labor market. As such, SHRM strongly supports S. 1383/H.R. 2618, which will improve the portability of professional licenses, providing certainty to military spouses and making it easier for them to continue working. This bipartisan legislation will benefit military families, local communities, and employers who are facing a growing skills gap.

Currently, the patchwork of state occupational licensure requirements is, at times, acting as a barrier to military spouse employment. These skilled spouses must often seek a new professional license when transitioning from state to state – a costly and time-consuming burden that impacts work, workers, and the workplace.

SHRM is pleased that provisions in S.1383/H.R. 2618 to address occupational licensing portability are currently included in the Fiscal Year 2020 National Defense Authorization Act and urges Congress to advance this language.

Sincerely,



Johnny C. Taylor, Jr., SHRM-SCP
President & CEO

CC: United States Congress