



# Legislative Council Staff

## Research Note

Version: Second Reading  
Date: 3/17/2016

### Bill Number

**Senate Bill 16-134**

### Sponsors

**Senator Heath & Garcia  
Representative Danielson &  
Kagan**

### Short Title

**Professional Licensing For  
Military Veterans**

### Research Analyst

**Jeanette Chapman (x4657)**

### Status

This bill is currently pending before the Senate on second reading. This research note reflects the bill as amended by the Senate Business, Labor, and Technology Committee on March 16, 2016.

### Summary

This bill requires that a military veteran's service experience be considered toward commercial driver's license (CDL) qualifications. Specifically, the Department of Revenue (DOR) must consider a military veteran's training, education, or experience during the CDL licensing process, and may provide credit toward a CDL for those qualifications.

In addition, the Division of Veterans Affairs is required to make reasonable efforts to notify military veterans returning home or planning to relocate to Colorado of the departments' requirements under the bill, and also the similar requirements in current law for the Division of Professions and Occupations in the Department of Regulatory Agencies to consider military service as a qualifier for licensing and certification for the 50 professions it regulates.

### Background

The DOR is responsible for developing, adopting, and administering procedures for licensing drivers of commercial vehicles. The bill permits the DOR to add military training and experience as qualifications for certification for a CDL.

The Division of Veterans Affairs, within the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is

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tasked with, among other things, acting as a liaison between the state and local veterans service offices to keep local offices informed of assistance available to veterans in the state.

## **Senate Action**

***Senate Business, Labor, and Technology Committee (March 16, 2016).*** At the hearing, representatives from the United Veterans Committee testified in support of the bill. The committee adopted amendment L.001 and referred the bill, as amended, to the Senate Committee of the Whole. Amendment L.001 removed the requirement that the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment consider a military veteran's continuing medical education, training, or service during the initial emergency medical service certification.