

Stylist Article April 2013

The State of California is offering America's heroes and their families a small measure of thanks for their sacrifices over the last decade.

Two bills were passed by the Legislature and signed into law last year by Governor Jerry Brown. These bills offer licensees of the Board of Barbering and Cosmetology (Board) called to active duty as members of the U.S. Armed Forces or the California National Guard and, in some circumstances, their loved ones, waivers on license renewal fees and expedited reciprocity applications. The bills went into effect January 1, 2013.

Under AB 1588, renewal fees for persons who hold a current and valid license at the time they are called to active duty are waived. In order to qualify for the waiver, the licensee must provide written documentation that he or she has been called to active duty and is prohibited from performing any services during the period the waiver is in effect, unless their duties in the military include providing barbering and cosmetology services (a military barber, for instance).

Renewal requirements are only waived for the period of time the licensee is serving on active duty, and the licensee/registrant must notify the Board of receipt of a notice of discharge date within 60 days of receiving such a notice. After discharge, the licensee must meet all the necessary renewal requirements within six months. The forms can be found at <http://www.barbercosmo.ca.gov/licensees/afexempt.pdf> and http://www.barbercosmo.ca.gov/licensees/res_active.pdf

The second bill, AB 1904, requires the Board to expedite the granting of reciprocity (granting a California license to people holding a barbering and cosmetology license from another state) to spouses and legal domestic partners of people serving on active duty in the United States Armed Forces who are assigned a duty station in California.

In order to qualify, the applicant must supply evidence to the board that the applicant is married to or in some other legal union with an active duty member of the military who is assigned to California.

The form for applying for expedited reciprocity can be found at http://www.barbercosmo.ca.gov/forms_pubs/reciprocity.pdf