

Chapter 55 Implementation: Veterans and Licensing

Advanced Texas Administrative Law Seminar

September 1, 2016



TDLR At A Glance

33 STATUTES WITH 168 LICENSE TYPES as of 9/1/2015

Business and Occupations

Combative Sports
Driver Education and Safety
For-Profit Legal Services
Licensed Breeders
Polygraph Examiners
Professional Employer Organization
Service Contract Providers
Temporary Common Worker Employers
Towing Companies
Used Automotive Parts Recyclers
Vehicle Protection Product Warrantors
Vehicle Storage Facilities

Health Professions

Athletic Trainers
Dietitians
Dyslexia Therapists & Practitioners
Hearing Instrument Fitters & Dispensers
Midwives
Orthotists & Prosthetists
Speech-Language Audiologists & Pathologists

Building and Mechanical

Air Conditioning and Refrigeration
Architectural Barriers
Boiler Safety
Electrical Safety
Elevators, Escalators & Related Equipment
Industrialized Housing and Buildings

Natural Resources

Water Well Drillers
Water Well Pump Installers
Weather Modification

Professional

Auctioneers
Barbering
Cosmetology
Property Tax Consultants
Property Tax Professionals

KEY STATISTICS – FY 2015

Licensing

Total License Population
– Individual Licensees
– Business & Facility Licensees

652,388
455,076
197,312

Enforcement

Complaints Opened

10,511

Compliance and Field Operations

Inspections Completed

120,549

Customer Service

Telephone Calls Received

409,608

What Is Chapter 55?

Chapter 55 of the Texas Occupations Code:

- Addresses occupational licensing of military service members, military veterans, and military spouses;
- Requires state licensing agencies to credit applicants for verified military service, training, and education;
- Directs state licensing agencies to grant licenses to military service members, military veterans, and military spouses who hold a license in a jurisdiction with requirements substantially similar to those of Texas;
- Requires state licensing agencies to adopt relaxed timelines and reduced fees for military service members, military veterans, and military spouses.



Some Definitions

Chapter 55 refers to military service members, military veterans, and military spouses.

- A “military service member” is a person on active duty, i.e., engaged in full-time military service in the armed forces of the United States, the State of Texas, or similar military service of another state. Tex. Occ. Code § 55.001(1) and (4).
- A “military veteran” is a person who has served on active duty and has been discharged or released from active duty. Tex. Occ. Code § 55.001(6).
- A “military spouse” is a person married to a military service member. Tex. Occ. Code § 55.001(5).



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