



## WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL ACT MEMO

**2011 Wisconsin Act 210**  
[2011 Senate Bill 550]

**License Extensions for Service  
Members and Spouses and  
Reciprocal Credentials for Spouses**

### **LICENSE EXTENSIONS**

Under prior law, if a member of the National Guard or Reserves held a license, permit, certificate, approval, or similar document issued by a state agency (“license”) that would have expired while the member was on active duty, the expiration date of the license was extended to 90 days following the service member’s discharge from active duty. Wisconsin Act 210 provides that the expiration date of the license of a service member, which is defined to also include a member of the U.S. Armed Forces, is extended to 180 days following discharge from active duty.

Act 210 also extends the expiration date of the license of the spouse of a service member, if the spouse does not practice under the license while the service member is on active duty, as a result of that active duty. Prior law contained no provisions regarding license extensions for spouses of service members.

Further, Act 210 repeals a provision of prior law that required the service member to meet all of the requirements for license extension or renewal, except for continuing education requirements, in order to have the license extended.

The above provisions pertain to a wide array of licenses, permits, certificates, approvals, and other credentials issued by various state agencies that are specified in the Act. It includes a license to practice law, if the Wisconsin Supreme Court agrees to grant an extension.

### **RECIPROCAL CREDENTIALS FOR SPOUSES OF SERVICE MEMBERS**

Act 210 requires the Department of Safety and Professional Services (DSPS) and affiliated credentialing boards to grant a reciprocal credential to the spouse of a service member, if the spouse applies for the reciprocal credential and the department or board determines that: (1) the spouse and the

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This memo provides a brief description of the Act. For more detailed information, consult the text of the law and related legislative documents at the Legislature’s Web site at: <http://www.legis.state.wi.us/>.

service member temporarily reside in Wisconsin as a result of the member's service; and (2) the spouse holds a license, certification, registration, or permit that was granted by a governmental authority in a jurisdiction outside of Wisconsin that qualifies the person to perform the acts authorized under the appropriate credential granted by the department or credentialing board. The spouse must pay the credentialing fee specified by law and must meet any other requirements established by the department or credentialing board by rule. The reciprocal credential generally expires 180 days after the date of issuance.

***Effective date:*** Act 210 has a two-month delayed effective date of June 1, 2012.

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