

Hawaii Board of Education

Pm Azinga

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Honolulu, Hawaii

Submitted as Public Testimony

Hawaii Republican Party

Aloha, we here in Hawaii are known as the "Gateway to the Pacific". As such we often entertain dignitaries that visit our islands. Some three weeks ago we were visited by the Second Lady of the United States Karen Pence as she addressed the US Conference of Mayors Annual Meeting at the Hilton Hawaiian Village. On this occasion the Vice-President's wife spoke of her concerns for the crisis facing the wives of military servicemen when they attempt to be gainfully employed.

Many of these spouses report that they don't work in careers that match their skill level, education level or prior salaries. The Chamber of Commerce report found that 49-52% have completed college degrees or higher levels of education. Military spouses with degrees face the greatest challenges in nearly every measurable employment category. They face the highest rate of unemployment and the most difficulty finding meaningful work. As a result 44% of these spouses report that their families are living pay check to pay check because they need a second income.

Military spouses unemployment is a serious problem for some 641,639 people who are married to active duty. Here in Hawaii we have some 300,000 military servicemen stations here with some 70,000 families experiencing the same problem. May I offer a solution that employs military spouses and meets the Hawaii State Board of Education teacher shortage?

Nebraska Governor Pete Ricketts proposed a "Military Teaching Permit" valid for teaching in Nebraska School system for a period of three years. This Military Teaching Permit cannot be renewed.

005.01A Complete the application, found in Appendix A, and meet the requirements of lawful presence in the United States as set forth in Sections 4-108 through 4-112 R.R.S. including completion of the United States Citizenship Attestation Form if necessary, found in Appendix C;

005.01B Submit an official transcript of all college credit earned in fulfillment of the requirements of 92 NAC 21;

005.01C Pay the prescribed fee as provided in Section 003.05 of this chapter;

005.01D Not have an application for a certificate denied or currently have a certificate suspended or revoked by another jurisdiction, and not have any felony conviction, or any misdemeanor conviction involving abuse, neglect, or sexual misconduct as defined in Sections 003.11 through 003.14 of this chapter;

005.01E Be of good moral character;

005.01F Not have an emotional or mental incapacity to practice the profession as defined in Section 003.10 of this chapter;

005.01G Submit a complete, legible set of the applicant's fingerprints and pay a fee of fifty (50) dollars to the Department for processing a criminal history record check if the applicant is seeking the first issuance of a Nebraska certificate or permit and has not been a resident of Nebraska for at least five (5) continuous years immediately preceding the date of application

005.01H Submit evidence of human relations training as defined by this chapter;

005.31B Hold or have held a teaching certificate or permit in another state;

005.31C Submit evidence of employment of at least two years teaching experience in an approved, accredited or otherwise legally operated school in another state, by the U.S. Department of Defense or by a foreign country pursuant to standards comparable and equivalent to those in 92 NAC 21;

005.31D Submit verification of employment from the Superintendent of Schools or the governing body of a school system in which the applicant intends to teach in Nebraska. The recommended form (Military Teaching Permit Verification Form) is available on the Teacher Certification website and;

005.31E Submit evidence of current service in the armed forces of the United States, or evidence of having retired from such service within five (5) years of the date of application. If the applicant for a Military Teaching Permit is the spouse of active or retired military personnel, the applicant must present the same evidence pertaining to his or her spouse.