



# DEFENSE-STATE LIAISON OFFICE

Working with state policymakers to support military families



U.S. Department of Defense

**MILITARY  
STATE POLICY  
SOURCE**

# Who We Are

---

Defense-State Liaison Office regional liaisons work with state policymakers to make changes to help military families by:

- Delivering personalized support throughout the legislative process
- Offering insights into military life and knowledge of how different issues impact military families
- Applying their experience in policymaking processes and strategies to push legislation past hurdles
- Finding constituents to testify at committee hearings



## Meet the Regional Liaisons



**Tammie Perreault**  
Northwest Regional Liaison  
AK, ID, MT, OR, WA, WY



**Kelli May Douglas**  
Pacific Southwest  
Regional Liaison  
AZ, CA, HI, NM, NV, UT



**Martin Dempsey**  
Midwest Regional Liaison  
CO, IA, KS, MN, MO, NE



**Jeremy Hilton**  
South Central Regional Liaison  
AR, LA, OK, TX



**Eric Sherman**  
Southeast Regional Liaison  
AL, FL, KY, MS, TN



**Kevin Bruch**  
South Atlantic Regional Liaison  
GA, NC, SC, VA



**James Rickel**  
Central Regional Liaison  
IL, IN, MI, ND, OH, SD, WI, WV



**Christopher Arnold**  
Northeast Regional Liaison  
CT, DE, MA, MD, ME, NH,  
NJ, NY, PA, RI, VT



# What We Do

The Defense-State Liaison Office works with state policymakers to change laws and policies to improve military family well-being.

**Since 2010, we've worked with state policymakers to enact more than 800 bills that make life better for the military community.**



# Military Matters: 2022 Key Issues

The Defense-State Liaison Office works with Defense Department leaders and other stakeholders to choose 10 issues to focus on each year.

## **FOCUS:**

**Work with state policymakers to alleviate barriers as a result of military life**

**Harmonize differences between state and federal laws**

See an overview of where your state stands on key issues for military families at [statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil](https://statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil).





# 2022 Key Issues: Military Spouse Licensure

## Licensing Compacts

States can facilitate the ability of professionals, including military spouses, to work across state lines by enacting occupational licensure interstate compacts.

## Enhanced Military Spouse Licensure Portability

States can streamline state licensing processes for relocating military spouses by providing them with a license within 30 days with minimal initial paperwork.

## Military Spouse Occupational Licensure Access

States can reduce the obstacles spouses experience when applying under state laws by posting easily accessible website content specific to military spouses.



# 2022 Key Issues: Education

---

## **Purple Star Schools Program**

By establishing statewide Purple Star Schools programs, states can encourage local education agencies to implement practices that assist military children with transitions/deployments and also recognize military service and civic responsibility.

## **Advance Enrollment**

States can help by waiving proof of residency requirements until the student arrives in the new state on military transfer orders.

## **Open Enrollment Flexibility**

States can provide military families with increased flexibility through access to district open enrollment policies.

## **In-State Tuition Continuity**

States can deem a dependent of a service member a resident despite changes in the service member's military status following acceptance at an institution of higher learning.





# 2022 Key Issues: Health & Human Services

---

## **Child Abuse Identification and Reporting**

States can assist the Defense Department by requiring local jurisdictions to identify military families and develop reporting and information-sharing procedures between civilian child protective services and military child advocacy.

## **Concurrent Jurisdiction**

States' juvenile courts can adjudicate juvenile offenses when concurrent jurisdiction is established between state and federal authorities over military installations.

## **"Ask the Question" Campaign**

State agencies can connect service members, veterans and their families with local, state and federal resources by asking the question, "Have you or a family member ever served in the military?" on all intake forms.





# 2023 Key Issues: The Way Ahead



# DSLO: Ready to Support

The Defense-State Liaison Office stands ready to help you make changes in these areas and others that matter to military families.

**Tammie L. Perreault**

[Tammie.L.Perreault.civ@mail.mil](mailto:Tammie.L.Perreault.civ@mail.mil)

(571) 424-8264

For additional information, visit [statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil](http://statepolicy.militaryonesource.mil).

Thank you for helping our military families.

