

**Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 5, 2021**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1278
(Representatives Mock, Ista, Kasper, Lefor, Louser, Pyle, Schauer, Stemen)
(Senators Burckhard, Kreun, Oban)

AN ACT to create and enact a new subdivision to subsection 1 of section 52-06-02 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to eligibility for unemployment compensation for military spouses; and to amend and reenact subdivision b of subsection 2 of section 52-04-07 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to benefits paid chargeable to accounts of base-period employers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subdivision b of subsection 2 of section 52-04-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- b. With benefits paid to an individual who:
- (1) Left the employment of the base-period employer voluntarily without good cause or with good cause not involving fault on the part of the base-period employer;
 - (2) Was discharged from employment by the base-period employer for misconduct; ~~or~~
 - (3) Was separated from employment with the most recent employer for reasons directly attributable to domestic violence, stalking, or sexual assault; or
 - (4) Is a military spouse who voluntarily left the most recent employment to relocate because of permanent change of station orders of the individual's military-connected spouse.

SECTION 2. A new subdivision to subsection 1 of section 52-06-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is created and enacted as follows:

This subsection does not apply if the individual is a military spouse who, after disclosure to the individual's employer and a reasonable attempt to maintain the employment relationship through accommodation, voluntarily left the most recent employment to relocate because of permanent change of station orders of the individual's military-connected spouse. For purposes of this subdivision:

- (1) "Military spouse" means the spouse of a member of the armed forces of the United States or a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States stationed in this state in accordance with military orders or stationed in this state before a reassignment to duties outside this state.
- (2) "Permanent change of station orders" means the assignment, reassignment, or transfer of a member of the armed forces of the United States or a reserve component of the armed forces of the United States from the member's present duty station or location without return to the previous duty station or location.

Kim A. Kozlowski
Speaker of the House

[Signature]
President of the Senate

Buell J. Reith
Chief Clerk of the House

[Signature]
Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1278.

House Vote: Yeas 87 Nays 4 Absent 3

Senate Vote: Yeas 46 Nays 1 Absent 0

Buell J. Reith
Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at 8:54 A.M. on March 18, 2021.

Approved at 6:23 P.M. on March 22, 2021.

[Signature]
Governor

Filed in this office this 23rd day of March, 2021,

at 8:21 o'clock A. M.

[Signature]
Secretary of State