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Overview

This legislation is intended to help children of military families, as their parents are deployed or relocated throughout the country, make a more successful transition between school districts by creating a uniform inter-state policy affecting student: enrollment, including the transfer of education records, immunizations, and kindergarten and first grade entrance; placement, including course and educational program placement, special education services, placement flexibility, and excused absences related to deployment activities; eligibility, including enrollment and extracurricular activities; and graduation, including course waivers, exit exams, and transfers during a student's senior year of high school.

Section

- 1 Establishment; membership.** (a) Includes a representative appointed by the adjutant general of the Minnesota National Guard as a member of the P-20 education partnership.

(d) Makes the P-20 education partnership the state council for the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, and makes the partnership chair responsible for administering and managing the state's participation in the compact.
- 2 Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children.**
 - Article I defines the purposes of the compact.
 - Article II defines the terms used in the compact.
 - Article III defines students' eligibility for purposes of the compact.

Section

- Article IV provides for official and unofficial transfer of education records, immunization requirements, and age requirements for entering kindergarten and first grade.
- Article V addresses issues of course and education program placement, special education services and appropriate student placement, placement flexibility, and excused absences related to deployment activities.
- Article VI establishes eligibility for enrollment and participation in extracurricular activities.
- Article VII facilitates on-time graduation through waivers and alternative exit exams, and a process to accommodate student transfers during senior year.
- Article VIII makes member states responsible for coordinating activities among affected state and local agencies and military installations.
- Article IX creates an Interstate Commission on Educational Opportunity for Military Children and makes commission activities a discretionary state function.
- Article X identifies the powers and duties of the interstate commission.
- Article XI explains the organization and operation of the interstate commission.
- Article XII gives the interstate commissioner the ability to promulgate rules.
- Article XIII establishes terms for oversight, enforcement, and dispute resolution.
- Article XIV directs the interstate commission to pay reasonable expenses for its establishment, organization, and ongoing activities.
- Article XV makes states eligible to become member states.
- Article XVI allows a member state to withdraw from the compact by repealing the statute enacting the compact into law.
- Article XVII declares the compact provisions to be severable and liberally construed to effect compact purposes.
- Article XVIII makes the effect of the compact and compact agreements binding on a member state and supercedes state laws conflicting with the compact.

- 3 Military-connected youth identifier.** (a) Requires updated school district enrollment forms to allow students to self-identify as military-connected youth.
- (b) Makes data collected under this section private data but allows the education department to publish summary data under this section.

Section

- 4** **Prevailing law; academic credits; high school diplomas.** States that where Minnesota statute or rule governing the awarding of academic credits or a high school diploma or an equivalent degree or credential conflicts with this compact, Minnesota law supersedes the provisions of this compact to the extent of the conflict.