

**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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

\_\_\_\_\_  
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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

Approved at \_\_\_\_\_ M. on \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor

Filed in this office this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2021,

at \_\_\_\_\_ o'clock \_\_\_\_\_ M.

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Secretary of State