



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

August 20, 2014

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NEW YORK MAKES 50!

LEXINGTON, KY — With the signing of Senate Bill 6887 by Governor Andrew Cuomo, New York becomes the 50th state to adopt “The Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children” into law. The new law eases the transition to a new school for children of military families that relocate as a result of military orders.

“Honoring our veterans, service members and military families for their service and sacrifice is one of our highest responsibilities as New Yorkers – and today our state is taking a tremendous step forward in how we support both these brave men and women and their loved ones,” Governor Cuomo said. “This new law is a comprehensive package of reforms that will benefit the members of the armed forces and those who support them in communities across the state. From helping children of military families succeed in school, to opening doors to spouses and loved ones in their careers and honoring the ultimate sacrifice with expanded burial assistance, this legislation is comprehensive and needed. I am proud to sign this bill into law today, and I thank the many legislators, advocates and community leaders who fought alongside us to make it a reality.”

The Interstate Compact ensures the uniform treatment of military children transferring between school districts and states. It was developed by The Council of State Governments' National Center for Interstate Compacts, the U.S. Department of Defense, national associations, federal and state officials, the department of education of each state, school administrators and military families.

The military child faces a great many challenges, as the military family transfers from one assignment to the next in support of our common defense. The average military student faces transition challenges more than twice during high school and most military children will attend six to nine different school systems in their lives from kindergarten to 12th grade. The Compact seeks to make transition easier for the children of military families so that they are afforded the same opportunities for educational success as other children and are not penalized or delayed in achieving their educational goals.

The Department of Defense continues to work with the Commission, national organizations and state leaders to bring the remaining states on board. Member states are forming their state councils and informing school districts of the terms of the interstate compact. The Commission has met annually and is working to implement and communicate the requirements of the Interstate Compact.

For more information on the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children or the Military Interstate Children's Compact Commission, please visit the MIC3 website at www.mic3.net.

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