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Introduced by Senator Runner

February 18, 2011

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An act to amend Section 12817 of the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 720, as introduced, Runner. Vehicles: drivers' licenses: military personnel and their dependents.

Existing law requires a California driver's license held by a person who enters or is in the United States Armed Forces to continue in full force and effect, so long as the service continues and the person remains absent from this state, and for a period not to exceed 30 days following the date the holder of the license is honorably separated from service or returns to this state, among other things.

This bill would extend the above benefit to a dependent, as defined, of the person who enters or is in the United States Armed Forces, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:*

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 12817 of the Vehicle Code is amended  
2 to read:  
3 12817. (a) A California driver's license held by ~~any~~ a person  
4 who enters or is in the United States ~~armed forces~~ *Armed Forces*  
5 shall continue in full force and effect, so long as the service  
6 continues and the person remains absent from this ~~State~~ *state*, and  
7 for a *period* not to exceed 30 days following the date ~~on which~~

1 the holder of ~~such~~ *the* license is honorably separated from ~~such~~  
 2 *that* service or returns to this ~~State~~ *state*, unless the license is ~~sooner~~  
 3 *was* suspended, canceled, or revoked for cause as provided by law.  
 4 The license is valid only ~~when~~ *if it is* in the immediate possession  
 5 of the licensee while driving and the licensee has *in his or her*  
 6 *immediate possession* discharge or separation papers; ~~if he the~~  
 7 *licensee* has been discharged or separated from the service, ~~in his~~  
 8 *immediate possession*.

9 (b) (1) *A California driver’s license held by a dependent of a*  
 10 *person described in subdivision (a) shall continue in full force and*  
 11 *effect, so long as the person described in subdivision (a) continues*  
 12 *in service and remains absent from this state and the dependent*  
 13 *remains absent from this state, and for a period not to exceed 30*  
 14 *days following the date the person described in subdivision (a) is*  
 15 *honorably separated from that service or the date that that person*  
 16 *or the dependent returns to this state, whichever is earlier, unless*  
 17 *the dependent’s license was suspended, canceled, or revoked for*  
 18 *cause provided by law. The license is valid only when in the*  
 19 *immediate possession of the licensee while driving.*

20 (2) *For purposes of this subdivision, a dependent means the*  
 21 *wife or minor child of the person described in subdivision (a).*