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Finding A School Interstate Compact On Educational Opportunity For Military Children

Information:

Military families are three times more likely to move than their civilian counterparts. With each of these moves, children of military families are forced to change schools and too often are ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities and struggle to keep up academically. To help make this transition easier for children and their families, North Carolina Gov. Mike Easley signed the "Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children".

North Carolina is home to over 120,000 military families and six major military installations. "To really support the military you have to support the military families and especially the military children," said Gov. Easley.

States signing onto the compact agree to work together to establish uniform standards for entering school, transferring records, course placement, graduation requirements and other common problems that affect military students as a result of frequent moves and deployments. The compact also removes rules that make it difficult for high school students to continue their involvement in sports and other extracurricular activities.

In an effort to comply with the terms of the compact, Gov. Easley will appoint a licensed North Carolina attorney as a commissioner to the compact to represent North Carolina. A state council will also be established by the North Carolina State Board of Education to provide coordination between government agencies, local education agencies, and military installations.

Military life presents many challenges for military families. Gov. Easley has ensured that military children moving to one of the bases in his state have a smooth transition and the same opportunity for a bright future as their civilian classmates.

More Information:

o http://www.mic3.net

Council of State Governments for more information on the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

Additional Resources:

Download the <u>NC Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military</u> Children (.pdf).