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\$1.00

CLOVIS CITY COUNCIL INTRODUCES BUSINESS REGISTRATION AND LICENSE EXEMPTION FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL

80%

20%



In a unanimous 5-0 vote, the Clovis City Council introduced an ordinance on March 10, 2025, aimed at amending the Clovis Municipal Code to provide business registration and licensing exemptions for military personnel. The measure, designed to honor and support honorably retired veterans and active-duty service members, reflects the city's commitment to fostering an inclusive environment for those who have served.

The ordinance targets veterans and active-duty military members who own or operate businesses within Clovis. It stipulates specific requirements that must be met to qualify for the exemption, though city officials emphasized their intent to keep the program as accessible as possible. "We want to make it as open as possible and include as many individuals under this umbrella," a <u>council member stated during the meeting</u>, underscoring the goal of broadening participation.

Importantly, the exemption is not limited to Clovis residents. It <u>extends to business owners</u> <u>who operate within city</u> limits, even if they reside elsewhere. For example, a contractor living in Kerman but holding a Clovis <u>business license to work in the city</u> would qualify. "It's not just Clovis residents; it's Clovis business owners," clarified a council member, noting that the measure applies to anyone who opens a business or requires a license to operate in Clovis, regardless of their <u>home</u> address.

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The proposal received no public comments or questions during the open forum, suggesting either broad support or a need for greater public awareness. Following the introduction, the <u>council moved swiftly to approve the ordinance's</u> first reading, with Councilmember Sina initiating the motion and another member seconding it. The unanimous "aye" vote signaled strong backing from the council, setting the stage for final adoption at a future meeting.

This initiative aligns with Clovis's ongoing <u>efforts to support its military community</u>, recognizing the sacrifices made by service members and their contributions to the local economy. By easing the financial and administrative burdens of business ownership, the city hopes to encourage veteran and active-duty entrepreneurs to thrive in Clovis.

For those interested in learning more about the ordinance or its eligibility criteria, further details will likely be available as the measure progresses toward final approval. The council's action marks a meaningful step in acknowledging the unique challenges <u>faced</u> by military personnel transitioning to civilian life or balancing service with entrepreneurship.