

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-fifth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 26-0327.01 Josh Schultz x5486

HOUSE BILL 26-1431

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HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

**Bacon and Soper,**

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

**Gonzales J. and Jodeh,**

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**House Committees**  
Business Affairs & Labor

**Senate Committees**

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING DEMONSTRATING COMPETENCY FOR OCCUPATIONAL  
102 LICENSURE PORTABILITY.

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**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

Under current law, an individual licensed, certified, registered, or enrolled in good standing to practice a particular profession or occupation in another state or United States territory or through the federal government is eligible to apply for and receive a license, certification, registration, or enrollment in that profession or occupation in Colorado (accreditation) if the individual meets specific criteria. The bill adds an

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
*Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.*  
*Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.*

individual licensed, certified, registered, or enrolled in good standing to practice a particular profession or occupation in another country to those individuals eligible for accreditation if the individual meets specific criteria.

Under current law, a regulator of a profession or occupation in the division of professions and occupations in the department of regulatory agencies (regulator) shall allow an applicant for certification, registration, or licensure by endorsement (applicant) to demonstrate competency in a specific profession or occupation as determined by the regulator in lieu of requiring the applicant to have worked or practiced in that profession or occupation for a specific period of time prior to application, unless otherwise prohibited by statute. The bill amends the provision to allow a regulator to specify by rule what constitutes substantially equivalent experience or credentials and to require that a regulator allow an applicant to demonstrate competency in a specific profession or occupation regardless of whether a demonstration of competency through substantially equivalent experience or credentials is prohibited elsewhere in statute.

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1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-20-202, **amend**  
3 (3)(b)(I) introductory portion and (3)(d) as follows:

4           **12-20-202. Licenses, certifications, and registrations - renewal**  
5 **- reinstatement - fees - occupational credential portability program**  
6 **- exceptions for military personnel, spouses, gold star military**  
7 **spouses, and dependents - rules - consideration of criminal**  
8 **convictions or driver's history - executive director authority -**  
9 **definitions.**

10           **(3) Occupational credential portability program - definitions.**

11           (b) (I) Except as specified in subsections (3)(c) and (3)(f) of this  
12 section, ~~a person~~ AN INDIVIDUAL duly licensed, certified, registered, or  
13 enrolled in good standing in another state, ~~or~~ A United States territory, OR  
14 ANOTHER COUNTRY or through the federal government to practice a  
15 particular profession or occupation, or who holds a military occupational

1 specialty, as defined in section 24-4-201, is, upon application to the  
2 division for licensure, certification, registration, or enrollment in that  
3 profession or occupation in this state, entitled to the issuance of the  
4 applicable license, certification, registration, or enrollment if all of the  
5 following apply:

6 (d) (I) ~~A regulator may specify by rule what constitutes~~  
7 ~~substantially equivalent experience or credentials and, unless otherwise~~  
8 ~~prohibited by this title 12, shall allow an applicant for certification,~~  
9 ~~registration, or licensure by endorsement to demonstrate competency in~~  
10 ~~a specific profession or occupation as determined by the regulator in lieu~~  
11 ~~of a requirement that the applicant has worked or practiced in that~~  
12 ~~profession or occupation for a period of time prior to the application for~~  
13 ~~endorsement.~~ NOTWITHSTANDING OTHER PROVISIONS OF THIS TITLE 12:

14 (A) A REGULATOR MAY SPECIFY BY RULE WHAT CONSTITUTES  
15 SUBSTANTIALLY EQUIVALENT EXPERIENCE OR CREDENTIALS; AND

16 (B) A REGULATOR SHALL ALLOW AN APPLICANT FOR  
17 CERTIFICATION, REGISTRATION, OR LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT TO  
18 DEMONSTRATE COMPETENCY IN A SPECIFIC PROFESSION OR OCCUPATION  
19 AS DETERMINED BY THE REGULATOR.

20 (II) THIS SUBSECTION (3)(d) DOES NOT APPLY TO A CERTIFICATION,  
21 REGISTRATION, OR LICENSE ISSUED PURSUANT TO AN INTERSTATE  
22 CREDENTIAL COMPACT.

23 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date -**  
24 **applicability.** (1) This act takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following  
25 the expiration of the ninety-day period after final adjournment of the  
26 general assembly (August 12, 2026, if adjournment sine die is on May 13,  
27 2026); except that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1

1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against this act or an item, section,  
2 or part of this act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part  
3 will not take effect unless approved by the people at the general election  
4 to be held in November 2026 and, in such case, will take effect on the  
5 date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.

6 (2) This act applies to applications for certification, registration,  
7 or licensure by endorsement filed on or after the applicable effective date  
8 of this act.