



Legislative Council Staff

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FISCAL NOTE

Drafting Number: LLS 20-0333
Prime Sponsors: Rep. Bird; Van Winkle

Date: March 10, 2020
Bill Status: House Business Affairs
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Bill Topic: CREATE OCCUPATIONAL CREDENTIAL PORTABILITY PROGRAM

- Summary of Fiscal Impact: State Revenue, State Expenditure, State Transfer, TABOR Refund, Local Government, Statutory Public Entity

This bill creates the Occupational Credential Portability Program in the Division of Professions and Occupations in the Department of Regulatory Agencies to centralize the credentialing of individuals licensed in another state. It will increase state workload in FY 2020-21 and FY 2021-22.

Appropriation Summary: No appropriation is required.

Fiscal Note Status: The fiscal note reflects the introduced bill.

Summary of Legislation

Under current law, people duly licensed in another state can be credentialed in Colorado for most professions and occupations administered by the Division of Professions and Occupations (DPO) in the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA), if they meet certain qualifications. These qualifications are included within the statute for each profession and occupation subject to the bill and allow for licensure, certification, registration, or enrollment by endorsement, reciprocity, or transfer. This bill removes the endorsement, reciprocity, or transfer language from each act and centralizes it in the newly created Occupational Credential Portability Program (program). The professions and occupations that will be included in the program are as follows:

- acupuncturists;
architects;
athletic trainers;
audiologists;
barbers and cosmetologists;
certified public accountants
chiropractors
dentists and dental hygienists;
electricians;
hearing aid providers;
landscape architects;
massage therapists;

- medical doctors;
- naturopaths;
- nurses including, advanced practice nurses, practical nurses and nurse's aides;
- nursing home administrators;
- occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants;
- optometrists;
- pharmacists;
- physical Therapists and Physical Therapy Assistants;
- podiatrists;
- professional land surveyors and land surveyor-interns;
- professional engineers and engineer-interns;
- psychiatric technicians;
- psychologists, social workers, marriage and family therapists, professional and addiction counselors;
- respiratory therapists;
- speech language pathologists; and
- veterinarians.

State Expenditures

The bill will increase workload in the DPO to centralize credentialing for out-of-state applicants seeking certification, registration, and licensure. Regulators within the DPO will conduct rulemaking to establish the Occupational Credential Portability Program that reduces barriers for applicants and then implement the changes. This rulemaking workload can be accomplished within existing appropriations.

Effective Date

The bill takes effect August 5, 2020, if the General Assembly adjourns on May 6, 2020, as scheduled, and no referendum petition is filed.

State and Local Government Contacts

Information Technology

Law

Regulatory Agencies