AN ACT

Relating to certain functions of the division of banking, securities, and corporations and the division of occupational licensing in the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development; relating to program receipts and record search fees of the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development related to banking, securities, and corporations; and providing for an effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

THE ACT FOLLOWS ON PAGE 1
AN ACT

Relating to certain functions of the division of banking, securities, and corporations and the division of occupational licensing in the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development; relating to program receipts and record search fees of the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development related to banking, securities, and corporations; and providing for an effective date.

* Section 1. AS 08.13.215(c) is amended to read:

(c) The owner of a shop for tattooing and permanent cosmetic coloring or for body piercing shall prominently display

(1) a copy of the statement provided by the board under AS 08.13.030(b) that advises the public of the health risks and possible consequences of tattooing and permanent cosmetic coloring or body piercing, as applicable;

(2) the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of the [DIVISION
OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING,] Department of Commerce, Community, and
Economic Development [,] and the Department of Environmental Conservation and a
description of how a complaint about the shop or a practitioner in the shop may be
filed with either entity or with the board.

* Sec. 2. AS 08.24.260 is amended to read:

Sec. 08.24.260. Investigations. The department may, upon its own motion,
and shall, upon the sworn complaint in writing of a customer of a collection agency,
investigate the actions of a licensee claimed to have violated this chapter and, for that
purpose, shall have free access to the offices and place of business and, if the
complaint involves customer accounts, to all pertinent books, accounts, records,
papers, files, safes, and vaults of the licensee or certificate holder. If the complaint
involves the owing of money, or any other thing of value, by a licensee to the
complainant, when the licensee raises the issue of an offset or counterclaim, the
department [DIVISION] may require the complainant to submit all records and data
in the complainant's possession pertaining to the offset or counterclaim.

* Sec. 3. AS 08.26.180 is amended to read:

Sec. 08.26.180. Exemption. A financial institution regulated by the federal
government or a financial institution regulated under AS 06 by the [DIVISION IN
THE] department [THAT REGULATES BANKING, SECURITIES, AND
CORPORATIONS,] is not required to be licensed under this chapter in order to
engage in the business of providing services as a guardian or a conservator or be
appointed as a private professional guardian or a private professional conservator by a
court. In this subsection, "financial institution" does not include a person who is
exempt under AS 06.26.020 or who has received an exemption under AS 06.26.200.

* Sec. 4. AS 08.32.071 is amended to read:

Sec. 08.32.071. Renewal of registration. At least 60 days before expiration
of a licensee's registration certificate, the Department of Commerce, Community,
and Economic Development [DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING] shall
mail a form for renewal of registration to each licensed dental hygienist. Each
licensee who wishes to renew a registration certificate shall complete the form and
return it with the appropriate fee and evidence of continued professional competence
as required by the board. The **Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development** [DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING] shall, as soon as practicable, issue a registration certificate valid for a stated number of years. Each licensee shall keep the registration certificate beside or attached to the licensee's license. Failure to receive the registration form does not exempt a licensee from renewing registration.

* **Sec. 5.** AS 08.36.190 is amended to read:

  **Sec. 08.36.190. Grading of examination.** Upon the conclusion of the written examination and as soon as practicable, the papers shall be rated by an examiner. The examiner shall prepare a report in duplicate on each written examination and a report in duplicate on each practical examination. The examiner shall forward one copy of each report on each candidate to the secretary of the board and one copy to the **department** [DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING]. The secretary shall prepare a composite report on each applicant and file one copy of that report with the **department** [DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING]. As soon as practicable, the **department** [DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING] shall notify each candidate of the results of the examination.

* **Sec. 6.** AS 08.36.230 is amended to read:

  **Sec. 08.36.230. Practice outside the state.** A dentist licensed to practice in this state and residing and practicing dentistry outside this state may maintain eligibility to practice in this state by registering the dentist's name and place of residence with the **department** [DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING] every four years and submitting proof of continued professional competence as required by the board. If the dentist fails to register, the board may reinstate the dentist's license without examination upon payment of applicable fees established by regulations adopted under AS 08.01.065, payment of a penalty established under AS 08.01.100(b), presentation of proof of continued professional competence, and presentation of proof of active practice certified by the dental board having jurisdiction or, if there is no board with jurisdiction, by evidence satisfactory to the board.

* **Sec. 7.** AS 08.36.250(a) is amended to read:
(a) At least 60 days before expiration of a licensee's registration certificate, the department [DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING] shall mail a form for renewal of registration to each licensed dentist. A licensee who wishes to renew a license shall complete the form and return it with the appropriate fee and evidence of continued professional competence as required by the board. The department [DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING] shall, as soon as practicable, issue a registration certificate valid for a stated number of years. A licensee shall keep the registration certificate beside or attached to the licensee's license. Failure to receive the registration form does not exempt a licensee from renewing registration.

* Sec. 8. AS 08.45.020 is amended to read:

Sec. 08.45.020. Application for license. A person desiring to practice naturopathy shall apply in writing to the department [DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT].

* Sec. 9. AS 08.45.030 is amended to read:

Sec. 08.45.030. Issuance of license. The department [DIVISION] shall issue a license to practice naturopathy to an applicant who provides proof satisfactory to the department [DIVISION] that the applicant has received a degree from an accredited four-year college or university, and

(1) on or before December 31, 1987, has graduated from a school of naturopathy that required four years of attendance at the school and after graduation has received a license in another state after passing an examination for licensure in that state and is licensed by a state at the time of application; or

(2) after December 31, 1987, has

(A) graduated from a school of naturopathy that required four years of attendance at the school and at the time of graduation the school was accredited or a candidate for accreditation by the Council on Naturopathic Medical Education or a successor organization recognized by the United States Department of Education; and

(B) passed the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examination.

* Sec. 10. AS 08.45.035(a) is amended to read:
(a) The department [DIVISION] shall issue a temporary license to practice naturopathy to an applicant who has applied for and is qualified to take the next Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examination offered after the date of application and provides proof satisfactory to the department [DIVISION] that the applicant

(1) meets the requirements of AS 08.45.030(2)(A); and
(2) has not previously failed the Naturopathic Physicians Licensing Examination.

* Sec. 11. AS 08.45.060 is amended to read:

Sec. 08.45.060. Grounds for suspension, revocation, or refusal to issue a license. The department [DIVISION] may, after a hearing, impose a disciplinary sanction on a person licensed under this chapter when the department [DIVISION] finds that the licensee

(1) secured a license through deceit, fraud, or intentional misrepresentation;
(2) engaged in deceit, fraud, or intentional misrepresentation in the course of providing professional services or engaging in professional activities;
(3) advertised professional services in a false or misleading manner;
(4) has been convicted of a felony or other crime that affects the licensee's ability to continue to practice competently and safely;
(5) failed to comply with this chapter, with a regulation adopted under this chapter, or with an order of the department [DIVISION];
(6) continued to practice after becoming unfit due to
   (A) professional incompetence;
   (B) addiction or severe dependency on alcohol or a drug that impairs the licensee's ability to practice safely;
   (C) physical or mental disability;
   (7) engaged in lewd or immoral conduct in connection with the delivery of professional service to patients.

* Sec. 12. AS 08.45.070 is amended to read:

Sec. 08.45.070. Disciplinary sanctions. (a) When it finds that a licensee under this chapter has violated AS 08.45.040 - 08.45.050 or is guilty of an offense
under AS 08.45.060, the department [DIVISION] may impose the following sanctions singly or in combination:

1. permanently revoke the license to practice;
2. suspend the license for a determinate period of time;
3. censure the licensee;
4. issue a letter of reprimand to the licensee;
5. place the licensee on probationary status and require the licensee to
   (A) report regularly to the department [DIVISION] upon matters involving the basis of probation;
   (B) limit practice to those areas prescribed;
   (C) continue professional education until a satisfactory degree of skill has been attained in areas determined by the department [DIVISION] to need improvement;
6. impose limitations or conditions on the practice of the licensee.

b) The department [DIVISION] may withdraw probationary status of a licensee if it finds that the deficiencies that required the sanction have been remedied.

c) The department [DIVISION] may summarily suspend a license before final hearing or during the appeals process if the department [DIVISION] finds that the licensee poses a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety if the licensee continues to practice. A licensee whose license is suspended under this section is entitled to a hearing conducted by the office of administrative hearings (AS 44.64.010) not later than seven days after the effective date of the order. The licensee may appeal the suspension after a hearing to a court of competent jurisdiction.

* Sec. 13. AS 08.45.070(c), as amended by sec. 14, ch. 163, SLA 2004, is further amended to read:

(c) The department [DIVISION] may summarily suspend a license before final hearing or during the appeals process if the department [DIVISION] finds that the licensee poses a clear and immediate danger to the public health and safety if the licensee continues to practice. A licensee whose license is suspended under this section is entitled to a hearing conducted by the office of administrative hearings (AS 44.64.010) not later than seven days after the effective date of the order. The
licensee may appeal the suspension after a hearing to a court of competent jurisdiction.

* Sec. 14. AS 08.45.200 is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(4) "department" means the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development.

* Sec. 15. AS 08.64.050 is amended to read:

Sec. 08.64.050. Oath of office. Each member shall take an oath of office. The oath shall be filed and preserved in the [DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING OF THE] department.

* Sec. 16. AS 10.13.810(b) is amended to read:

(b) The department may appoint as conservator one of the employees of the [DIVISION OF BANKING, SECURITIES, AND CORPORATIONS OF THE] department or another competent and disinterested person. The department [DIVISION] shall be reimbursed out of the assets of the conservatorship for all money expended by the department [DIVISION] in connection with the conservatorship. Upon the approval of the department, the expenses of the conservatorship paid for by the department [DIVISION] shall be paid out of the assets of the licensee. Payment of the department [DIVISION] expenses shall take priority over other payments from the assets and shall be fully paid before a final distribution is made.

* Sec. 17. AS 10.20.530 is amended to read:

Sec. 10.20.530. Service on commissioner. When a foreign corporation authorized to transact business in the state, or not authorized to transact business in the state but doing so, fails to appoint or maintain a registered agent in the state, or when a registered agent cannot with reasonable diligence be found at the registered office, or when the certificate of authority of a foreign corporation is suspended or revoked, the commissioner is an agent upon whom process, notice, or demand may be served. Service on the commissioner shall be made by delivering to and leaving with the commissioner, or the commissioner's [A] designee [IN THE CORPORATION DIVISION OF THE DEPARTMENT], duplicate copies of the process, notice, or demand, accompanied by a fee established by the department by regulation. The commissioner shall immediately have one copy forwarded by registered or certified mail, addressed to the corporation at its principal office in the state or country under
whose laws it is incorporated. Service on the commissioner is returnable in not less than 30 days.

* Sec. 18. AS 13.36.145(b) is amended to read:

(b) The separate fund of securities required by (a)(2) of this section shall be marked as a separate fund for (a)(2) of this section. Withdrawals from or additions to the separate fund may be made from time to time, as long as the required value is maintained. The income of the securities in the separate fund belongs to the corporate trustee. In the statements of its financial condition published or delivered to the [DIVISION OF BANKING, SECURITIES, AND CORPORATIONS IN THE] Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development, the corporate trustee shall show as separate items the amount of trust funds that it has deposited with itself and the amount of securities that it holds as security for the payment of the deposits.

* Sec. 19. AS 18.18.100(n) is amended to read:

(n) A hospice program may not use a direct service provider whose name is listed on an abuse registry maintained by the [DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING]. A hospice program shall contact [THE DIVISION] for a determination of whether a prospective direct service provider's name is on an abuse registry maintained by [THE DIVISION] and may not allow the person to provide hospice services until [THE DIVISION] has responded to the inquiry. The [DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT] may adopt regulations to implement this subsection. In this subsection, "department" means the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development.

* Sec. 20. AS 34.80.090(4) is amended to read:

(4) "financial institution" means a financial institution
(A) whose accounts are insured by an agency of the federal government;
(B) that is located in this state and does not meet the
requirements of (A) of this paragraph, but is subject to regulation by the
[DIVISION OF BANKING, SECURITIES AND CORPORATIONS IN THE]
Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development; or

(C) that is located in another state and does not meet the
requirements of (A) of this paragraph, but is subject to regulation in the other
state by an agency comparable to the [DIVISION OF BANKING,
SECURITIES AND CORPORATIONS IN THE] Department of Commerce,
Community, and Economic Development;

* Sec. 21. AS 37.05.146(c)(34) is amended to read:

(34) receipts of the [DIVISION OF THE] Department of Commerce,
Community, and Economic Development from its functions relating to [THAT
REGULATES] banking, securities, and corporations;

* Sec. 22. AS 40.25.110(e) is amended to read:

(e) Notwithstanding other provisions of this section to the contrary, the Bureau
of Vital Statistics and the library archives in the Department of Education and Early
Development may continue to charge the same fees that they were charging on
September 25, 1990, for performing record searches, and may increase the fees as
necessary to recover agency expenses on the same basis that was used by the agency
immediately before September 25, 1990. Notwithstanding other provisions of this
section to the contrary, the [DIVISION OF BANKING, SECURITIES, AND
CORPORATIONS IN THE] Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic
Development may continue to charge the same fees that the former Department of
Commerce and Economic Development was charging on July 1, 1999, for performing
record searches for matters related to banking, securities, and corporations, and
may increase the fees as necessary to recover agency expenses on the same basis that
was used by the former Department of Commerce and Economic Development
immediately before July 1, 1999.

* Sec. 23. AS 46.03.375(a) is amended to read:

(a) The department shall adopt regulations governing the certification of
persons who install, test, close, repair, or significantly change the configuration of
underground petroleum storage tanks and tank systems. The certification program
shall be administered by the [DIVISION OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING,] Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development. In consultation with the Department of Environmental Conservation, the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development [DIVISION] shall make every reasonable attempt to ensure that opportunities for obtaining certification under this section are available throughout the state. The Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development [DIVISION] shall organize presentation of national training courses that are available in the state and assist residents of isolated communities who request assistance in becoming certified. The Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development [DIVISION] may contract with the University of Alaska, a vocational technical school, or a regional nonprofit organization to provide the education and testing necessary for certification.

* Sec. 24. AS 46.03.375(b) is amended to read:

(b) The Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development [DIVISION] shall establish fees applicable to certification under this section in an amount necessary to cover the costs of the certification program. The fees shall be collected by the Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development [DIVISION].

* Sec. 25. AS 08.45.200(2) and AS 46.03.375(g)(2) are repealed.

* Sec. 26. Section 13 of this Act takes effect on the effective date of sec. 14, ch. 163, SLA 2004.

* Sec. 27. Except as provided in sec. 26 of this Act, this Act takes effect immediately under AS 01.10.070(c).