



ALASKA STATE LEGISLATURE

SENATE LABOR & COMMERCE COMMITTEE

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Sponsor Statement

Senate Bill 211

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Extend Occupational Licensing Boards

Senate Bill 211 proposes extending the sunset date of six State professional boards, those of Professional Counselors, Marital and Family Therapy, Psychologists and Psychological Associate Examiners, Real Estate Commission, Certified Real Estate Appraisers, and Social Work Examiners.

Last year, the State Division of Legislative Audit completed sunset audits of these boards. Each of the audits concluded that the boards served the public's interest by conducting meetings in accordance with state law and actively amending regulations as needed.

The audit of the Board of Professional Counselors recommended that the legislature extend the board's termination date by six years. The audit of the Board of Marital and Family Therapy recommended extending the board's termination date by eight years. The audit of the Board of Psychologists and Psychological Examiners recommended that the board's termination date be extended by five years. The audit of the Real Estate Commission recommended that the commission's termination date be extended by four years. The audit of the Board of Certified Real Estate Appraisers recommended that the legislature extend the board's termination date by six years. And finally, the audit of the Board of Social Work Examiners recommended that the board's termination date be extended by eight years.

SB 211 follows the audits' recommended extensions for each of these State professional boards so that they can continue their important role in serving the public's interest. It also provides for interim reports to the Legislature concerning compliance by two of the boards with audit recommendations, the boards of psychologist examiners and real estate appraisers.

I urge your support of Senate Bill 211.