

Professional Licensing Reform: Overview

This bill reduces barriers to practice in a variety of professions and moves toward “right-sizing” government without placing the public at risk.

Creates Improved Regulatory Solutions	Key Features
Universal Temporary Licensure: Requires the department to issue a 180-day temporary license for qualified individuals seeking licensure in one of more than 100 professions licensed in AS 08.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This legislation will allow temporary license-holders to work in their field while completing ancillary requirements for full licensure. • It reduces paperwork burdens on military spouses. • It allows healthcare facilities to quickly hire much-needed staff. • It mandates the department to issue temporary licenses to qualified individuals. Currently, the law gives this option to professional licensing boards, and many have not adopted regulations to do so. • It allows the department to renew the license for an additional 180 days.
Moves regulation of dental radiological equipment to the Department of Health and Social Services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will provide qualified oversight of dental radiological equipment. • Reduces a potential public safety hazard. • Has not historically been enforced by the Board of Dental Examiners because it is not within their scope of knowledge.
Removes Barriers to Licensure	Key Features
Adds a “reasonable basis review” of applicants with criminal convictions.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requires a review to associate time since conviction, relevance to profession, rehabilitation, nature and seriousness of the crime. • Allows an applicant to request a determination prior to application. • Requires the department and licensing boards to define nebulous phrases like “good moral character” in regulations.
Corrects collection agency statutes to align with federal law and equalizes the fees for in-state and out-of-state collection agencies.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduces paperwork burden on licensees and staff. • Reduces potential for wrongful license denial.
Makes administrative changes to hearing aid dealer license requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aligns with federal law and opens opportunities for additional practitioners.
Eliminates a defunct credentialing association from home inspector licensing and clarifies renewal requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduces confusion and potential for application fraud.
Eliminates outdated requirements for obtaining a speech-language pathology license.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expands the pathway to licensure. • Defines “field work”. • Provides flexibility to the department to keep up with current standards.
Eliminates nebulous requirement for the Board of Veterinary Examiners to collect data on the practice of veterinary technology.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intent is unclear; and as a result, this requirement has never been formally implemented.
Removes Unnecessary Bureaucracy and Inefficiency	Key Features
Repeals bond or cash deposit for certain businesses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removes expectation that DCCED will implement an impossible statute.
Eliminates the Athletic Commission and regulation of boxing and wrestling.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has not been operational since 2002 due to statutory lack of funding.
Eliminates regulation of geologists.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no state requirement to hold a geologist license. The current requirement for state licensure is simply verification of certification from the national organization.
Eliminates regulation of concert promoters.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available current market technology makes this requirement unnecessary.