



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, COMMUNITY AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
Division of Corporations, Business and
Professional Licensing**

**Introduction to Professional Licensing
Reform: SB157 & HB216**

Sara Chambers, Division Director

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Professional Licensing Reform

Purpose of this effort:

Reduce barriers to practice in a variety of professions and move toward “right-sizing” government without placing the public at risk.

- Improve and expand regulatory solutions to modern licensing issues
- Reduce government obstacles to licensure
- Remove unnecessary bureaucracy and inefficiency



Professional Licensing Reform

Alaska joins a non-partisan movement to increase job opportunities, ensure availability of quality health care, and support military families:

White House: 2015, 2019

National Conference of State Legislatures

Council of State Governments

National Governors Association

U.S. Department of Defense

U.S. Department of Labor

National Employment Law Project

Institute for Justice

Arizona, Utah, Montana, Idaho, Vermont, among others



Professional Licensing Reform

Key features of this legislation

Improves workforce opportunities by establishing *Universal Temporary Licensure* for qualified individuals seeking licensure in one of more than 100 professions

- Allows temporary license-holders to work in their field while completing ancillary requirements for full licensure
- Reduces paperwork burdens on military spouses
- Allows healthcare facilities to more quickly hire much-needed staff
- 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.*
- Permits the department to renew the license for an additional 180 days



Professional Licensing Reform

Key features of this legislation

Improves fairness and transparency of licensure by adding a “reasonable basis review” of applicants with criminal convictions

- Requires a review to evaluate 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.



Professional Licensing Reform

Key features of this legislation

Repeals unnecessary licensing programs:

- Athletic Commission and regulation of boxing and wrestling
 - *Has not been operational since 2002 due to statutory lack of funding.*
- Regulation of geologists
 - *There is no state requirement to hold a geologist license.*
 - *The current requirement for state licensure does not increase public safety.*
 - *No enforcement requirements.*
- Regulation of concert promoters
 - *Available current market technology makes this requirement unnecessary.*
 - *No violations in recent history.*



Professional Licensing Reform

Key features of this legislation

Updates various outdated, unnecessary, or misaligned administrative requirements for the following programs:

- Dental radiological equipment
- Collection agencies
- Home inspectors
- Speech-language pathologists
- Hearing aid dealers
- Board of Veterinary Examiners
- Business licensing



Professional Licensing Reform

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Division of Corporations, Business and Professional Licensing

Contact Information:

(907) 465-2144 or (907) 465-2550

Sara.Chambers@Alaska.Gov