

NEWS RELEASE

Released by: Lindsey B. Courtney, Executive Director
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Concord, N.H. – Tonight, Executive Director Courtney responds to the Governor's proposed licensing reforms in House Bill 2:

“New Hampshire is a wonderful place to live and work. The State's licensing requirements should not impose unnecessary barriers to workforce opportunities or be the reason someone decides not to move here. I applaud Governor Sununu's efforts to examine all professional licensing criteria, propose structural changes to eliminate unnecessary workforce barriers, and create a pathway for all qualified individuals to obtain a license without excessive red tape and administrative requirements.”

Please see the following for an overview of the changes proposed by House Bill 2:

Governor's Proposed Licensure and Regulatory Reform

As Proposed in HB 2

Overview – Process involved a thorough review of each of the existing 50+ licensing boards and copious licensing requirements to make decisions based on each individual circumstance in order to eliminate redundancies, improve efficiency, and reduce barriers to workforce entry.

- Establishes universal license recognition for the professions in New Hampshire that require a license. If you have a substantially similar license and are in good standing in another jurisdiction, New Hampshire will issue you a license.
- Creates clear lines between investigative fact finding and adjudicative hearings.
- Standardizes the investigative, disciplinary, and hearings process for all occupational licensing boards.
- Eliminates the requirement that licensing boards review licensing applications at monthly meetings by allowing the office to process licensing applications in between meetings.
- Streamlines existing processes to improve customer experience and faster processing time for issuing licenses.
- Standardizes licensing timeframes for all professions to eliminate administrative burden.
- Reduces administrative burden and promotes efficiency and economy by transferring occupational licensing boards or regulatory authority to the office.
- Establishes a non-lapsing, dedicated fund for the office, not to exceed \$5,000,000, for the purpose of paying costs, capital expenditures, and reducing fees.
- Ensures that military experience counts towards State licensure requirements across all professional licensing boards in the State.
- Fully removes 34 different outdated licenses from state government
- Eliminates 14 underutilized regulatory boards and almost 700 unnecessary statutory provisions.

Move to OPLC – To increase efficiency and eliminate redundancies, the following licensure boards and functions are transferred to the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification

- Board of Auctioneers – from Secretary of State's Office
- Boxing and Wrestling Commission – from Secretary of State's Office
- Professional Bondsmen – from Secretary of State's Office
- Board of Licensing for Interpreters for the Deaf, Deafblind and Hard of Hearing – from Dept. of Education

Change to Advisory Board – Upon review of the small number of licensees in the state and limited number of complaints received for a given profession, we determined that the following boards would be better suited to be an advisory group of professionals to advise the Executive Director on how to best implement the governing statutes. Licensees in these professions will experience a streamlined process upon initial licensing license renewal or. This is consistent with how we have treated other similarly situated boards in the past.

- Board of Acupuncture Licensing
- Board of the Certification of Assessors

- Family Mediator Certification Board
- Guardian Ad Litem Board
- Manufactured Housing Installation Standards Board
- Midwifery Council
- Naturopathic Board of Examiners
- Board of Nursing Home Administrators

Merged Boards – To increase efficiency and reduce barriers to workforce, combine oversight responsibilities by merging the following boards

1. Advisory Board of Reflexology, Structural Integration, and Asian Bodywork Therapy with Advisory Board of Massage Therapy to become the Advisory Board of Massage Therapists, Reflexology, Structural Integration, and Asian Bodywork Therapy
2. (1) Board of Alcohol and Other Drug Use Professionals (2) Board of Psychology and (3) Board of Mental Health Practice to one inclusive Board of Mental Health Practice
3. Board of Land Surveyors with the Board of Professional Engineers to become the Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors
4. (1) Board of Podiatry, (2) Board of Medicine and, (3) Medical Review Subcommittee to one inclusive Board of Medicine

Number 2 and 4 include 3→1 merges, thus eliminating 2 boards each

Repealed boards – To eliminate boards that no longer serve a necessary function, to eliminate boards that are not necessary to protect the public, and to eliminate unnecessary barriers to workforce entry, the following boards are repealed:

1. Board of Directors of Allied Health Professionals
2. Board of Foresters
3. Board of Landscape Architects
4. Board of Natural Scientists
5. Board of Registration of Medical Technicians
6. Court Reporters Advisory Board
7. Manufactured Housing Complaint Board
8. Medical Imaging and Radiation Therapists Advisory Board

The above repealed boards in addition to the boards that are proposed to be merged brings the total to 14

Repealed Licenses – As part of the effort to decrease barriers to workforce entry the following licenses and certifications are eliminated.

1. Apprentice Soil Scientist
2. Apprentice Wetland Scientist
3. Athlete Agent
4. Barbering, Cosmetology & Esthetics Booths within an already licensed facility
5. Cardiac Electrophysiology Specialist
6. Computed Tomography
7. Forester
8. Hawkers and Peddlers
9. Itinerant Vendor
10. Landscape Architect
11. Licensed Nursing Assistant
12. Limited X-ray Machine Operator

13. Magnetic Resonance Technologist
14. Medical Technician
15. Nuclear Medicine Technologist
16. Radiation Therapist
17. Radiographer
18. Radiologist Assistant
19. Shorthand Court Reporters
20. Soil Scientist
21. Sonographer
22. Temporary License-Cardiac Electrophysiology Specialist
23. Temporary License-Computed Tomography
24. Temporary License-Limited X-ray Machine Operator
25. Temporary License-Magnetic Resonance Technologist
26. Temporary License-Nuclear Medicine Technologist
27. Temporary License-Radiation Therapist
28. Temporary License-Radiographer
29. Temporary License-Radiologist Assistant
30. Temporary License-Sonographer
31. Temporary Permit-Veterinary Medicine
32. Temporary Registration-Medical Technician
33. Voice Court Reporter
34. Wetland Scientist