

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to occupational licensing; amending s.
 3 489.117, F.S.; requiring the Construction Industry
 4 Licensing Board within the Department of Business and
 5 Professional Regulation to issue registrations to
 6 eligible persons under certain circumstances;
 7 providing that the board is responsible for
 8 disciplining such licensees; requiring the board to
 9 make licensure and disciplinary information available
 10 through the automated information system; providing
 11 for the fees for the issuance of the registrations and
 12 renewal registrations; requiring the department to
 13 provide certain license, renewal, and cancellation
 14 notices; conforming provisions to changes made by the
 15 act; providing an effective date.

16
 17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
 18

19 Section 1. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (1) and
 20 subsection (2) of section 489.117, Florida Statutes, are amended
 21 to read:

22 489.117 Registration; specialty contractors.—

23 (1) (a) A ~~Any~~ person engaged in the business of a
 24 contractor as defined in s. 489.105(3)(a)-(o) must be registered
 25 before engaging in business as a contractor in this state,

26 unless he or she is certified. Except as provided in paragraph
 27 (2)(b), to be initially registered, the applicant must ~~shall~~
 28 submit the required fee and file evidence of successful
 29 compliance with the local examination and licensing
 30 requirements, if any, in the area for which registration is
 31 desired. An examination is not required for registration.

32 (b) Registration allows the registrant to engage in
 33 contracting only in the counties, municipalities, or development
 34 districts where he or she has complied with all local licensing
 35 requirements, if any, and only for the type of work covered by
 36 the registration.

37 (2)(a) Except as provided in paragraph (b), the board may
 38 not issue a ~~No new registration may be issued by the board~~ after
 39 July 1, 1993, based on any certificate of competency or license
 40 for a category of contractor defined in s. 489.105(3)(a)-(o)
 41 which is issued by a municipal or county government that does
 42 not exercise disciplinary control and oversight over such
 43 locally licensed contractors, including forwarding a recommended
 44 order in each action to the board as provided in s. 489.131(7).
 45 For purposes of this subsection and s. 489.131(10), the board
 46 shall determine the adequacy of such disciplinary control by
 47 reviewing the local government's ability to process and
 48 investigate complaints and to take disciplinary action against
 49 locally licensed contractors.

50 (b) The board shall issue a registration to an eligible

51 applicant to engage in the business of a contractor in a
52 specified local jurisdiction, provided each of the following
53 conditions are satisfied:

54 1. The applicant held, in any local jurisdiction in this
55 state during 2021, 2022, or 2023, a certificate of registration
56 issued by the state or a local license issued by a local
57 jurisdiction to perform work in a category of contractor defined
58 in s. 489.105(3)(a)-(o).

59 2. The applicant submits all of the following to the
60 board:

61 a. Evidence of the certificate of registration or local
62 license held by the applicant as required by subparagraph 1.

63 b. Evidence that the specified local jurisdiction does not
64 have a license type available for the category of work for which
65 the applicant was issued a certification of registration or
66 local license during 2021, 2022, or 2023, such as a notification
67 on the website of the local jurisdiction or an email or letter
68 from the office of the local building official or local building
69 department stating that such license type is not available in
70 that local jurisdiction.

71 c. Evidence that the applicant has submitted the required
72 fee.

73 d. Evidence of compliance with the insurance and financial
74 responsibility requirements of s. 489.115(5).

75

76 An examination is not required for an applicant seeking a
77 registration under this paragraph.

78 (c) The board is responsible for disciplining licensees
79 issued a registration under paragraph (b). The board shall make
80 such licensure and disciplinary information available through
81 the automated information system provided pursuant to s.
82 455.2286.

83 (d) The fees for an applicant seeking a registration under
84 paragraph (b) and renewal of such registration every 2 years are
85 the same as the fees established by the board for applications,
86 registration and renewal, and record making and recordkeeping,
87 as set forth in s. 489.109. The department shall provide
88 license, renewal, and cancelation notices pursuant to ss.
89 455.273 and 455.275.

90 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.