As Reported by the Senate Government Oversight and Reform Committee

132nd General Assembly

Regular Session 2017-2018

Sub. S. B. No. 255

Senator McColley

Cosponsors: Senators Wilson, Jordan, Huffman, Terhar, LaRose, Coley, Hoagland, Lehner, Eklund, Beagle

A BILL

То	enact sections 101.62, 101.63, 101.64, 101.65,	1
	103.26, 103.27, 4798.01, 4798.02, and 4798.03 of	2
	the Revised Code to establish a statewide policy	3
	on occupational regulation, to require standing	4
	committees of the General Assembly to	5
	periodically review occupational licensing	6
	boards regarding their sunset, and to require	7
	the Legislative Service Commission to perform	8
	assessments of occupational licensing bills and	9
	state regulation of occupations.	10

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 101.62, 101.63, 101.64, 101.65,	11
103.26, 103.27, 4798.01, 4798.02, and 4798.03 of the Revised	12
Code be enacted to read as follows:	13
Sec. 101.62. (A) As used in sections 101.62 to 101.65 of the Revised Code:	14 15
"Individual" means a natural person.	16

by any person, or any claim pending against any person by the

board. Unless the general assembly provides otherwise by law for

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shall be reviewed over a five-year period including calendar	77
years 2019 through 2023, and also during each subsequent five-	78
year period.	79
(B) Each occupational licensing board that is scheduled to	80
be reviewed by a standing committee shall submit to the standing	81
committee a report that contains all of the following	82
<pre>information:</pre>	83
(1) The board's primary purpose and its various goals and	84
objectives;	85
(2) The board's past and anticipated workload, the number	86
of staff required to complete that workload, and the board's	87
<pre>total number of staff;</pre>	88
(3) The board's past and anticipated budgets and its	89
sources of funding;	90
(4) The number of members of its governing board or other	91
governing entity and their compensation, if any.	92
(C) Each board shall have the burden of demonstrating to	93
the standing committee a public need for its continued	94
existence. In determining whether a board has demonstrated that	95
need, the standing committee shall consider, as relevant, all of	96
<pre>the following:</pre>	97
(1) Whether or not continuation of the board is necessary	98
to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public, and if	99
so, whether or not the board's authority is narrowly tailored to	100
protect against present, recognizable, and significant harms to	101
the health, safety, and welfare of the public;	102
(2) Whether or not the public could be protected or served	103
in an alternate or less restrictive manner;	104

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inhibited economic growth, reduced efficiency, or increased the	134
<pre>cost of government;</pre>	135
(11) An assessment of the authority of the board regarding	136
fees, inspections, enforcement, and penalties;	137
(12) The extent to which the board has permitted qualified	138
applicants to serve the public;	139
(13) The extent to which the board has permitted	140
individuals to practice elements of the occupation without a	141
license;	142
(14) The cost-effectiveness of the board in terms of	143
number of employees, services rendered, and administrative costs	144
<pre>incurred, both past and present;</pre>	145
(15) Whether or not the board's operation has been impeded	146
or enhanced by existing statutes and procedures and by	147
budgetary, resource, and personnel practices;	148
(16) Whether the board has recommended statutory changes	149
to the general assembly that would benefit the public as opposed	150
to the persons regulated by the board, if any, and whether its	151
recommendations and other policies have been adopted and	152
<pre>implemented;</pre>	153
(17) Whether the board has required any persons it	154
regulates to report to it the impact of board rules and	155
decisions on the public as they affect service costs and service	156
<pre>delivery;</pre>	157
(18) Whether persons regulated by the board, if any, have	158
been required to assess problems in their business operations	159
that affect the public;	160
(19) Whether the board has encouraged public participation	161

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in its rule-making and decision-making;	162
(20) The efficiency with which formal public complaints	163
filed with the board have been processed to completion;	164
(21) Whether the purpose for which the board was created	165
has been fulfilled, has changed, or no longer exists;	166
(22) Whether federal law requires that the board be	167
renewed in some form;	168
(23) An assessment of the administrative hearing process	169
of a board if the board has an administrative hearing process,	170
and whether or not the hearing process is consistent with due	171
<pre>process rights;</pre>	172
(24) Whether the requirement for the occupational license	173
is consistent with the policies expressed in section 4798.02 of	174
the Revised Code, serves a meaningful, defined public interest,	175
and provides the least restrictive form of regulation that	176
adequately protects the public interest;	177
(25) The extent to which licensing ensures that	178
practitioners have occupational skill sets or competencies that	179
are substantially related to protecting consumers from present,	180
significant, and substantiated harms that threaten public	181
health, safety, and welfare, and the impact that those criteria	182
have on applicants for a license, particularly those with	183
moderate or low incomes, seeking to enter the occupation or	184
<pre>profession;</pre>	185
(26) The extent to which the requirement for the	186
occupational license stimulates or restricts competition,	187
affects consumer choice, and affects the cost of services;	188
(27) An assessment of whether or not changes are needed in	189

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report of its findings and recommendations. A standing committee	219
may include in a single report its findings and recommendations	220
regarding more than one board. If the standing committee	221
prepares and publishes a report, the committee shall furnish a	222
copy of the report to the president of the senate, the speaker	223
of the house of representatives, the governor, and each affected	224
board. Any published report shall be made available to the	225
public in the offices of the house of representatives and senate	226
clerks during reasonable hours. As part of a report, the	227
standing committee may present its recommendations to the	228
general assembly in bill form.	229
(B) Recommendations made by the standing committee shall	230
indicate how or whether their implementation will do each of the	231
<pre>following:</pre>	232
(1) Improve efficiency in the management of state_	233
<pre>government;</pre>	234
(2) Improve services rendered to citizens of the state;	235
(3) Simplify and improve preparation of the state budget;	236
(4) Conserve the natural resources of the state;	237
(5) Promote the orderly growth of the state and its	238
<pre>government;</pre>	239
(6) Promote that occupational regulations shall be	240
construed and applied to increase economic opportunities,	241
<pre>promote competition, and encourage innovation;</pre>	242
(7) Provide for the least restrictive regulation by	243
repealing the current regulation and replacing it with a less	244
restrictive regulation that is consistent with the policies	245
expressed in section 4798.02 of the Revised Code;	246

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<pre>potential consequences of the legislation with respect to:</pre>	275
(1) Opportunities for employment within the occupation;	276
(2) Consumer choices and costs;	277
(3) Market competition;	278
(4) Cost to government.	279
(C) The assessment performed under division (B) of this	280
section shall include all of the following:	281
(1) A comparison of the regulatory scheme put forth in the	282
legislation with the current regulatory scheme in other similar	283
states for the same occupation and a consideration of the extent	284
to which significant changes in the board's rules could prevent	285
an individual licensed in this state from practicing, or allow	286
an individual licensed in this state to practice, the same	287
occupation in another jurisdiction without obtaining an	288
occupational license for that occupation in that other	289
jurisdiction;	290
(2) A comparison of the regulatory scheme put forth in the	291
legislation with the policy of this state as set forth in the	292
sections of the Revised Code governing the occupation that is	293
the subject of the legislation, if those sections include such a	294
policy.	295
(D) The sponsor of a bill, in order to assist the director	296
of the legislative service commission with the director's duties	297
under division (B) of this section, may submit to the director	298
any relevant information, including the following:	299
(1) Evidence of present, significant, and substantiated	300
harms to consumers in the state;	301

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"Occupational license" means nontransferable authorization	388
in law that an individual must possess in order to perform a	389
lawful occupation for compensation based on meeting personal	390
qualifications established by statute, or by a rule authorized	391
by statute.	392
"Occupational licensing board" means any board,	393
commission, committee, or council, or any other similar state	394
public body, and any administrative department enumerated under	395
section 121.02 of the Revised Code, and any agency, division, or	396
office of state government, that issues an occupational license.	397
"Occupational regulation" means a statute, policy, rule,	398
adjudication order, practice, or other state law requiring an	399
individual to possess certain personal qualifications to use an	400
occupational title or work in a lawful occupation. "Occupational	401
regulation" includes registration, certification, and	402
occupational license. "Occupational regulation" excludes a	403
business license, facility license, building permit, or zoning	404
and land use regulation, except to the extent those laws	405
regulate an individual's personal qualifications to perform a	406
lawful occupation.	407
"Personal qualifications" mean criteria related to an	408
individual's personal background and characteristics including	409
completion of an approved educational program, satisfactory	410
performance on an examination, work experience, other evidence	411
of attainment of requisite skills or knowledge, moral standing,	412
criminal history, and completion of continuing education.	413
"Registration" means a requirement to give notice to the	414
government that may include the individual's name and address,	415
the individual's agent for service of process, the location of	416
the activity to be performed, and a description of the service	417

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the individual provides. "Registration" does not include	418
personal qualifications but may require a bond or insurance.	419
"Specialty occupational license for medical reimbursement"	420
is a nontransferable authorization in law for an individual to	421
qualify for payment or reimbursement from a government agency,	422
for providing identified medical services, based on meeting	423
personal qualifications established in law, which may be	424
recognized by a private company.	425
(B) For purposes of this chapter:	426
(1) The terms "certification" and "registration" are not	427
synonymous with "occupational license."	428
(2) The use of the words "certification" and "certified"	429
in other statutes to mean requiring an individual to meet	430
certain personal qualifications to work legally shall be	431
interpreted for the purposes of this chapter as requiring an	432
individual to meet the requirements of an "occupational	433
<u>license."</u>	434
(3) The use of the words "registration" and "registered"	435
in other statutes to mean requiring an individual to meet	436
certain personal qualifications to work legally shall be	437
interpreted for the purposes of this chapter as requiring an	438
individual to meet the requirements of an "occupational	439
<u>license."</u>	440
Sec. 4798.02. With respect to occupational regulation of	441
individuals, all of the following are the policy of the state:	442
(A) Occupational regulations shall be construed and	443
applied to increase economic opportunities, promote competition,	444
and encourage innovation.	445

(B) Where the state finds it is necessary to displace	446
competition, the state will use the least restrictive regulation	447
to protect consumers from present, significant, and	448
substantiated harms that threaten public health, safety, and	449
welfare. The policy of employing the least restrictive	450
regulation shall presume that market competition and private	451
remedies are sufficient to protect consumers. Where needed,	452
regulations shall be tailored to meet the predominate identified	453
need to protect consumers, as follows:	454
(1) If regulations are intended to protect consumers	455
against fraud, the appropriate state action shall be to	456
strengthen powers under deceptive trade practices acts.	457
(2) If regulations are intended to protect consumers	458
against unsanitary facilities and general health, safety, and	459
welfare concerns, the appropriate state action shall be to	460
require periodic inspections.	461
(3) If regulations are intended to protect consumers	462
against potential damages to third parties who are not party to	463
a contract between the seller and buyer, and other types of	464
externalities, the appropriate state action shall be to require	465
bonding or insurance.	466
(4) If regulations are intended to protect consumers	467
against potential damages by transient providers, the	468
appropriate state action shall be to require registration with	469
the secretary of state.	470
(5) If regulations are intended to protect consumers	471
against asymmetrical information between the seller and buyer,	472
the appropriate state action shall be to offer voluntary	473
certification.	474

(6) If regulations are intended to facilitate governmental	475
reimbursement for providing medical services for an emerging	476
medical specialty, the appropriate state action shall be to	477
require a specialty occupational license for medical	478
<pre>reimbursement.</pre>	479
(C) An occupational regulation may be enforced against an	480
individual only to the extent the individual sells goods and	481
services that are included explicitly in the statute that	482
defines the occupation's scope of practice.	483
(D) Occupational regulations that are created by adopting	484
national or international standards and that are substantially	485
equivalent to the occupational regulations for that occupation	486
adopted in at least forty-five United States states are deemed	487
to be narrowly tailored and the least restrictive regulations.	488
By establishing and executing the policies in this	489
section, in concert with section 107.56 of the Revised Code, the	490
state intends to ensure that occupational licensing boards and	491
board members will avoid liability under federal antitrust laws.	492
Sec. 4798.03. This chapter preempts any ordinance or other	493
local law or regulation, which conflicts with or is inconsistent	494
with any policy of the state expressed in this chapter, by any	495
political subdivision that regulates an occupation that is also	496
regulated by the state.	497