

HOUSE BILL 1555

By Gilmore

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 3, Chapter 6, Part 3; Title 23, Chapter 3; Title 38, Chapter 1; Title 49; Title 55; Title 56; Title 62 and Title 63, relative to engaging in regulated occupations and professions by persons who have defaulted on student loans.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-6-302(a)(2), is amended by deleting the second sentence in the subdivision and substituting the following:

The information provided by the lobbyist shall include, but not be limited to, the lobbyist's name and birthdate.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-6-309, is amended by deleting the section and substituting the following:

Upon the application of an otherwise qualified lobbyist whose registration was suspended, denied, or revoked prior to the effective date of this act based solely upon such lobbyist being in default for repayment of student loans, the commission shall unsuspend, issue, or reinstate the lobbyist's registration.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 23-3-111, is amended by deleting the section and substituting the following:

The supreme court is encouraged to establish guidelines whereby, upon the application of an otherwise qualified attorney whose license was suspended, denied, or revoked prior to the effective date of this act based solely upon such attorney being in default for repayment of student loans, the supreme court unsuspends, issues, or reinstates the attorney's license.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-210, is amended by deleting the section and substituting the following:

The Tennessee student assistance corporation (TSAC) may enter into partnerships with local government entities and nonprofit organizations for the purpose of providing financial counseling to any lawyer who is licensed by the Tennessee supreme court, or any person who is licensed in any other profession, trade, occupation, business, or industry by any agency in this state, and who is delinquent or in default on any service obligation or repayment under any federal family education loan program; the federal Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. § 1001 et seq.), as amended; a student loan guaranteed or administered by TSAC; or any other state or federal educational loan or service-conditional scholarship program.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-5-108(d)(2), is amended by deleting the subdivision and substituting the following:

(2) Upon the application of an otherwise qualified teacher whose license or certificate was suspended, denied, or revoked prior to the effective date of this act based solely upon the teacher being in default for repayment of student loans, the state board of education shall unsuspend, issue, or reinstate the teacher's license or certificate.

SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-7-2125, is amended by deleting the section and substituting the following:

Upon the application of an otherwise qualified athlete agent whose registration was suspended, denied, or revoked prior to the effective date of this act based solely upon the athlete agent being in default for repayment of student loans, the secretary of state shall unsuspend, issue, or reinstate the athlete agent's registration.

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 56-1-109, is amended by deleting the section and substituting the following:

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "License" means a license, certification, registration, permit, approval, or other similar document issued to an individual evidencing admission to or granting authority to engage in a profession, trade, occupation, business, or industry; and

(2) "Licensing authority" means the department or any division, board, commission, committee, agency, or other governmental entity under the authority of the department or attached to a division of the department that has been established by statute or rule to oversee the issuance and regulation of any license.

(b) Upon the application of an otherwise qualified person whose license was suspended, denied, or revoked prior to the effective date of this act based solely upon the person being in default for repayment of student loans, the licensing authority shall unsuspend, issue, or reinstate the person's license.

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 56-1-312, is amended by deleting the section.

SECTION 9. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-1-141, is amended by deleting the section and substituting the following:

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "License" means a license, certification, registration, permit, approval, or other similar document issued to an individual evidencing admission to or granting authority to engage in a profession, trade, occupation, business, or industry; and

(2) "Licensing authority" means each board, commission, committee, agency, or other governmental entity created pursuant to this title.

(b) Upon the application of an otherwise qualified person whose license was suspended, denied, or revoked prior to the effective date of this act based solely upon the person being in default for repayment of student loans, the licensing authority shall unsuspend, issue, or reinstate the person's license.

SECTION 10. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.