
HOUSE BILL 1359

State of Washington

68th Legislature

2023 Regular Session

By Representatives Cheney, Walen, McClintock, Corry, and Volz

1 AN ACT Relating to expediting professional licenses for new
2 Washington residents; adding a new section to chapter 43.24 RCW;
3 adding a new chapter to Title 18 RCW; and creating a new section.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that worker
6 mobility is a vital part of a sustainable economy and ensuring
7 quality of life for the citizens of Washington state.

8 (2) However, the legislature acknowledges that many licensed
9 professions have differing requirements between states which an
10 individual must fulfill before being allowed to practice that
11 profession. This reality prevents certain individuals from continuing
12 work in their profession, upon moving to Washington state, until they
13 complete often costly, time consuming, and redundant application
14 requirements.

15 (3) Furthermore, the legislature acknowledges the undue burden
16 and disincentive this can cause relocating families, driving away
17 individuals looking to move to the state and work in professions in
18 need of talent.

19 (4) It is, therefore, the intent of the legislature to direct the
20 department of licensing to expedite the licensing application process
21 for all individuals moving from out of state if, in the opinion of

1 the department, the requirements for licensure, certification,
2 registration, or obtaining a permit of such other state are
3 substantially equivalent to that required in Washington.

4 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 43.24
5 RCW to read as follows:

6 (1) For the purposes of this section, "department" means the
7 department of licensing.

8 (2) By January 1, 2024, the department must establish procedures
9 to expedite the issuance of a license, certificate, registration, or
10 permit to perform professional services regulated by the department
11 to a person who is licensed, certified, or registered, or has a
12 permit in another state to perform such professional services in that
13 state.

14 (3) The procedure must include a process for issuing the person a
15 license, certificate, registration, or permit, if, in the opinion of
16 the department, the requirements for licensure, certification,
17 registration, or obtaining a permit of such other state are
18 substantially equivalent to that required in Washington.

19 (4) The department must develop a method and adopt rules to
20 authorize a person who meets the criteria in subsection (2) of this
21 section to perform services regulated in Washington by issuing the
22 person a temporary license, certificate, registration, or permit for
23 a limited period of time to allow the person to perform regulated
24 services while completing any specific additional requirements in
25 Washington that are not related to training or practice standards of
26 the profession that were not required in the other state in which the
27 person is licensed, certified, or registered, or has a permit.
28 Nothing in this section requires the department to issue a temporary
29 license, certificate, registration, or permit if the standards of the
30 other state are substantially unequal to Washington standards.

31 (5) An applicant must state in the application that he or she:

32 (a) Has requested verification from the other state or states
33 that the person is currently licensed, certified, or registered, or
34 has a permit; and

35 (b) Is not subject to any disciplinary sanctions, terms,
36 conditions, or restrictions by the regulatory body of the other state
37 or states.

38 (6) If the department finds reasonable cause to believe that an
39 applicant falsely affirmed or stated either of the requirements under

1 subsection (5)(a) or (b) of this section, the department may take
2 action to suspend or revoke the license, certificate, registration,
3 or permit.

4 (7) This section does not apply when there is a reciprocity
5 licensing agreement with a national organization in place to
6 facilitate reciprocal professional licensing of an individual
7 licensed in another state.

8 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) For the purposes of this chapter,
9 "department" means the department of licensing.

10 (2) By January 1, 2024, the department must establish procedures
11 to expedite the issuance of a license, certificate, registration, or
12 permit to perform professional services regulated by the department
13 to a person who is licensed, certified, or registered, or has a
14 permit in another state to perform such professional services in that
15 state.

16 (3) The procedure must include a process for issuing the person a
17 license, certificate, registration, or permit, if, in the opinion of
18 the department, the requirements for licensure, certification,
19 registration, or obtaining a permit of such other state are
20 substantially equivalent to that required in Washington.

21 (4) The department must develop a method and adopt rules to
22 authorize a person who meets the criteria in subsection (2) of this
23 section to perform services regulated in Washington by issuing the
24 person a temporary license, certificate, registration, or permit for
25 a limited period of time to allow the person to perform regulated
26 services while completing any specific additional requirements in
27 Washington that are not related to training or practice standards of
28 the profession that were not required in the other state in which the
29 person is licensed, certified, or registered, or has a permit.
30 Nothing in this chapter requires the department to issue a temporary
31 license, certificate, registration, or permit if the standards of the
32 other state are substantially unequal to Washington standards.

33 (5) An applicant must state in the application that he or she:

34 (a) Has requested verification from the other state or states
35 that the person is currently licensed, certified, or registered, or
36 has a permit; and

37 (b) Is not subject to any disciplinary sanctions, terms,
38 conditions, or restrictions by the regulatory body of the other state
39 or states.

1 (6) If the department finds reasonable cause to believe that an
2 applicant falsely affirmed or stated either of the requirements under
3 subsection (5)(a) or (b) of this section, the department may take
4 action to suspend or revoke the license, certificate, registration,
5 or permit.

6 (7) This chapter does not apply when there is a reciprocity
7 licensing agreement with a national organization in place to
8 facilitate reciprocal professional licensing of an individual
9 licensed in another state.

10 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Section 3 of this act constitutes a new
11 chapter in Title 18 RCW.

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