



Sen. Emil Jones, III

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10200HB5575sam001

LRB102 23484 AMQ 37675 a

1 AMENDMENT TO HOUSE BILL 5575

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend House Bill 5575 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the
5 Comprehensive Licensing Information to Minimize Barriers Task
6 Force Act.

7 Section 5. Declaration of public policy.

8 (a) The State finds that persons from historically and
9 economically disadvantaged groups have been directly and
10 indirectly excluded from opportunity and shared prosperity and
11 that it is in the public policy interest of the State to foster
12 an environment where all people, particularly those
13 equity-focused populations subjected to arbitrary barriers,
14 have the freedom to create their own path to success and
15 self-actualization.

16 (b) The State also finds that the freedom and access to

1 opportunities needed to achieve one's highest potential
2 through a lawful occupation is critically important to the
3 well-being of people in the State, and that the right to pursue
4 a lawful occupation is a fundamental right of all people.

5 (c) Therefore, it is in the public policy interest of the
6 State to minimize and remove unnecessary, arbitrary, and
7 ineffective barriers to employment and economic prosperity
8 that disproportionately exclude persons from historically and
9 economically disadvantaged groups.

10 (d) The General Assembly finds that occupational licensing
11 procedures and programs can unintentionally erect costly
12 barriers to employment for low-income persons, persons who
13 identify as black, indigenous, and people of color, formerly
14 convicted or incarcerated persons, women, and other
15 historically and economically disadvantaged populations.

16 (e) It is in the public policy interest of the State to
17 ensure that costly, unnecessary personal qualification
18 requirements or procedures in current occupational licensing
19 policies are minimized or removed in order to expand equitable
20 access to employment opportunities for persons in historically
21 and economically disadvantaged populations.

22 Section 10. Definitions. As used in this Act:

23 "Department" means the Department of Financial and
24 Professional Regulation.

25 "Low-income and middle-income licensed occupations" means

1 any licensed occupation regulated by the Department where the
2 average annual income of those employed in the occupation in
3 this State is equal to or less than the median annual income
4 for residents of this State as determined by the 2020 United
5 States Census.

6 "Task Force" means the Comprehensive Licensing Information
7 to Minimize Barriers Task Force.

8 Section 15. Task Force.

9 (a) The Comprehensive Licensing Information to Minimize
10 Barriers Task Force is hereby created within the Department of
11 Financial and Professional Regulation.

12 (b) Within 60 days after the effective date of this Act,
13 the Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint the
14 chairperson of the Task Force and the President of the Senate
15 shall appoint the vice-chairperson.

16 (c) Within 90 days after the appointment of the
17 chairperson and vice-chairperson, the chairperson and
18 vice-chairperson of the Task Force shall unanimously appoint
19 the following members of the Task Force:

20 (1) one representative from a nonprofit organization
21 that focuses on workforce development;

22 (2) one representative from a nonprofit organization
23 that focuses on reintegrating citizens returning from a
24 period of incarceration;

25 (3) one member of the public that works in a

1 low-income or middle-income licensed occupation and holds
2 an active license in good standing who has faced barriers
3 to employment through licensure, who may be recommended by
4 the member described in paragraph (1);

5 (4) one member of the public that works in a
6 low-income or middle-income licensed occupation and holds
7 an active license in good standing who has faced barriers
8 to employment through licensure specifically due to a
9 period of incarceration, who may be recommended by the
10 member described in paragraph (2);

11 (5) one member who holds an advanced degree and is an
12 expert in the field of licensing, workforce development,
13 or labor economics and is currently either a member of the
14 faculty at an accredited college or university in this
15 State or conducting related research through a research
16 institute affiliated with an accredited college or
17 university in this State; and

18 (6) one member who holds an advanced degree and is an
19 expert in the field of public health and safety regulation
20 and is currently either a member of the faculty at an
21 accredited college or university in this State or
22 conducting related research through a research institute
23 affiliated with an accredited college or university in
24 this State.

25 (d) Within 90 days after the appointment of the
26 chairperson and vice-chairperson, the following members shall

1 be appointed to the Task Force:

2 (1) the Secretary of Financial and Professional
3 Regulation, or the Secretary's appointed designee;

4 (2) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
5 House of Representatives; and

6 (3) one member appointed by the Minority Leader of the
7 Senate.

8 (e) Members of the Task Force shall serve without
9 compensation, but may be reimbursed for necessary expenses
10 incurred in the performance of their duties from funds
11 appropriated for that purpose.

12 (f) The Department shall provide administrative support to
13 the Task Force.

14 (g) Within 60 days after the final selection and
15 appointment of the members of the Task Force, the chairperson
16 shall convene the first meeting of the Task Force.

17 (h) Meetings of the Task Force shall be held monthly, with
18 at least 30 days between the previous meeting and the upcoming
19 meeting. Meetings shall be posted publicly.

20 Section 20. Report.

21 (a) The Task Force shall conduct an analysis of
22 occupational licensing, including, but not limited to,
23 processes, procedures, and statutory requirements for
24 licensure administered by the Department. The findings of this
25 analysis shall be delivered to the General Assembly, the

1 Office of Management and Budget, the Department, and the
2 public in the form of a final report. For the purpose of
3 ensuring that historically and economically disadvantaged
4 populations are centered in this analysis, the Task Force
5 shall identify low-income and middle-income licensed
6 occupations in this State and aggregate the information from
7 those occupations under the occupations' respective regulatory
8 board overseen by the Department to form the basis of the
9 report.

10 (b) The report shall contain, to the extent available,
11 information collected from sources including, but not limited
12 to, the Department, department licensure boards, other State
13 boards, relevant departments, or other bodies of the State,
14 and supplementary data including, but not limited to, census
15 statistics, federal reporting, or published research as
16 follows:

17 (1) the number of license applications submitted
18 compared with the number of licenses issued;

19 (2) data concerning the reason why licenses were
20 denied or revoked and a ranking of the most common reasons
21 for denial or revocation;

22 (3) an analysis of the information required of license
23 applicants by the Department compared with the information
24 that the Department is required by statute to verify, to
25 ascertain if applicants are required to submit superfluous
26 information;

1 (4) demographic information for the last 5 years of
2 (i) active license holders, (ii) license holders who were
3 disciplined in that period, (iii) license holders whose
4 licenses were revoked in that period, and (iv) license
5 applicants who were not issued licenses;

6 (5) data aggregated from the last 5 years of monthly
7 enforcement reports, including a ranking of the most
8 common reasons for public discipline;

9 (6) the cost of licensure to the individual,
10 including, but not limited to, the fees for initial
11 licensure and renewal, the average cost of training and
12 testing required for initial licensure, and the average
13 cost of meeting continuing education requirements for
14 license renewal;

15 (7) the locations within this State of each program or
16 school that provides the required training and testing
17 needed to obtain or renew a license, and whether the
18 required training and testing can be fulfilled online;

19 (8) the languages in which the required training or
20 testing is offered;

21 (9) the acceptance rates, graduation rates, and
22 dropout rates of the training facilities that provide
23 required training;

24 (10) the percentage of students at each school that
25 offers required training who financed the required
26 training through student loans; and

1 (11) the average annual salary of those in the
2 occupation.

3 (c) The final report shall also contain a general
4 description of the steps taken by the Task Force to fulfill the
5 report criteria and shall include in an appendix of the report
6 any results of the Task Force's analysis in the form of graphs,
7 charts, or other data visualizations. The Task Force shall
8 also exercise due care in the reporting of this information to
9 protect sensitive information of personal or proprietary value
10 or information that would risk the security of residents of
11 this State.

12 (d) The Task Force shall publish the final report by
13 December 1, 2023 with recommendations to the General Assembly,
14 including recommendations for continued required reporting
15 from the Department to better support the General Assembly in
16 revoking, modifying, or creating new licensing Acts.

17 Section 90. Repeal. This Act is repealed December 1, 2024.

18 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon
19 becoming law.".