

SECOND REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 1760

93RD GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES WASSON (Sponsor), RICHARD, TILLEY,
CUNNINGHAM (145), WELLS AND PAGE (Co-sponsors).

Read 1st time February 14, 2006 and copies ordered printed.

STEPHEN S. DAVIS, Chief Clerk

5096L.01I

AN ACT

To repeal section 660.315, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to employee disqualification list maintained by the department of health and senior services.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Section 660.315, RSMo, is repealed and one new section enacted in lieu thereof, to be known as section 660.315, to read as follows:

660.315. 1. After an investigation and a determination has been made to place a person's name on the employee disqualification list, that person shall be notified in writing mailed to his or her last known address that:

(1) An allegation has been made against the person, the substance of the allegation and that an investigation has been conducted which tends to substantiate the allegation;

(2) The person's name will be included in the employee disqualification list of the department;

(3) The consequences of being so listed including the length of time to be listed; and

(4) The person's rights and the procedure to challenge the allegation.

2. If no reply has been received within thirty days of mailing the notice, the department may include the name of such person on its list. The length of time the person's name shall appear on the employee disqualification list shall be determined by the director or the director's designee, based upon the criteria contained in subsection 9 of this section.

EXPLANATION — Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets [thus] in the above bill is not enacted and is intended to be omitted from the law. Matter in **bold-face** type in the above bill is proposed language.

14 3. If the person so notified wishes to challenge the allegation, such person may file an
15 application for a hearing with the department. The department shall grant the application within
16 thirty days after receipt by the department and set the matter for hearing, or the department shall
17 notify the applicant that, after review, the allegation has been held to be unfounded and the
18 applicant's name will not be listed.

19 4. If a person's name is included on the employee disqualification list without **the**
20 **department providing** notice [by the department] **as required under subsection 1 of this**
21 **section**, such person may file a request with the department for removal of the name or for a
22 hearing. Within thirty days after receipt of the request, the department shall either remove the
23 name from the list or grant a hearing and set a date therefor.

24 5. Any hearing shall be conducted in the county of the person's residence by the director
25 of the department or the director's designee. The provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, for a
26 contested case except those provisions or amendments which are in conflict with this section,
27 shall apply to and govern the proceedings contained in this section and the rights and duties of
28 the parties involved. The person appealing such an action shall be entitled to present evidence,
29 pursuant to the provisions of chapter 536, RSMo, relevant to the allegations.

30 6. Upon the record made at the hearing, the director of the department or the director's
31 designee shall determine all questions presented and shall determine whether the person shall
32 be listed on the employee disqualification list. The director of the department or the director's
33 designee shall clearly state the reasons for his or her decision and shall include a statement of
34 findings of fact and conclusions of law pertinent to the questions in issue.

35 7. A person aggrieved by the decision following the hearing shall be informed of his or
36 her right to seek judicial review as provided under chapter 536, RSMo. If the person fails to
37 appeal the director's findings, those findings shall constitute a final determination that the person
38 shall be placed on the employee disqualification list.

39 8. A decision by the director shall be inadmissible in any civil action brought against a
40 facility or the in-home services provider agency and arising out of the facts and circumstances
41 which brought about the employment disqualification proceeding, unless the civil action is
42 brought against the facility or the in-home services provider agency by the department of health
43 and senior services or one of its divisions.

44 9. The length of time the person's name shall appear on the employee disqualification
45 list shall be determined by the director of the department of health and senior services or the
46 director's designee, based upon the following:

47 (1) Whether the person acted recklessly or knowingly, as defined in chapter 562, RSMo;

48 (2) The degree of the physical, sexual, or emotional injury or harm; or the degree of the
49 imminent danger to the health, safety or welfare of a resident or in-home services client;

50 (3) The degree of misappropriation of the property or funds, or falsification of any
51 documents for service delivery of an in-home services client;

52 (4) Whether the person has previously been listed on the employee disqualification list;

53 (5) Any mitigating circumstances;

54 (6) Any aggravating circumstances; and

55 (7) Whether alternative sanctions resulting in conditions of continued employment are
56 appropriate in lieu of placing a person's name on the employee disqualification list. Such
57 conditions of employment may include, but are not limited to, additional training and employee
58 counseling. Conditional employment shall terminate upon the expiration of the designated
59 length of time and the person's submitting documentation which fulfills the department of health
60 and senior services' requirements.

61 10. The removal of any person's name from the list under this section shall not prevent
62 the director from keeping records of all acts finally determined to have occurred under this
63 section.

64 11. The department shall provide the list maintained pursuant to this section to other
65 state departments upon request and to any person, corporation, **organization**, or association who:

66 (1) Is licensed as an operator under chapter 198, RSMo;

67 (2) Provides in-home services under contract with the department;

68 (3) Employs nurses and nursing assistants for temporary or intermittent placement in
69 health care facilities;

70 (4) Is approved by the department to issue certificates for nursing assistants training; [or]

71 (5) Is an entity licensed under chapter 197, RSMo; or

72 **(6) Is a recognized school of nursing, medicine, or other health profession for the**
73 **purpose of determining whether students scheduled to participate in clinical rotations with**
74 **entities described in subdivision (1), (2), or (5) of this subsection are included in the**
75 **employee disqualification list.**

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77 The department shall inform any person listed above who inquires of the department whether or
78 not a particular name is on the list. The department may require that the request be made in
79 writing.

80 12. No person, corporation, **organization**, or association who received the employee
81 disqualification list under **subdivisions (1) to (5) of** subsection 11 of this section shall knowingly
82 employ any person who is on the employee disqualification list. Any person, corporation,
83 **organization**, or association who received the employee disqualification list under **subdivisions**
84 **(1) to (5) of** subsection 11 of this section, or any person responsible for providing health care
85 service, who declines to employ or terminates a person whose name is listed in this section shall

86 be immune from suit by that person or anyone else acting for or in behalf of that person for the
87 failure to employ or for the termination of the person whose name is listed on the employee
88 disqualification list.

89 13. Any employer who is required to discharge an employee because the employee was
90 placed on a disqualification list maintained by the department of health and senior services after
91 the date of hire shall not be charged for unemployment insurance benefits based on wages paid
92 to the employee for work prior to the date of discharge, pursuant to section 288.100, RSMo.

93 14. Any person who has been listed on the employee disqualification list may request
94 that the director remove his or her name from the employee disqualification list. The request
95 shall be written and may not be made more than once every twelve months. The request will be
96 granted by the director upon a clear showing, by written submission only, that the person will
97 not commit additional acts of abuse, neglect, misappropriation of the property or funds, or the
98 falsification of any documents of service delivery to an in-home services client. The director
99 may make conditional the removal of a person's name from the list on any terms that the director
100 deems appropriate, and failure to comply with such terms may result in the person's name being
101 relisted. The director's determination of whether to remove the person's name from the list is not
102 subject to appeal.

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