

## HCS SCS SB 272 -- PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

This bill changes the laws regarding the licensure of certain professionals in the Division of Professional Registration within the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions, and Professional Registration.

### PROFESSIONAL LICENSE RENEWALS

Deaf interpreters, occupational therapists, occupational therapy assistants, clinical perfusionists, dietitians, massage therapists, interior designers, acupuncturists, tattooists, body piercers, and branders are added to the list of licensed professionals who are allowed to extend their license renewal with the division while on active military duty until up to 60 days after completing their service.

### ENDOWED CARE CEMETERIES

As a condition of license renewal, operators of endowed care cemeteries must file an annual trust fund report with the division. The definition of "funeral establishment" is expanded to include a crematory.

### LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS

The Missouri Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Professional Land Surveyors, and Landscape Architects is allowed to establish continuing education requirements and authorize inactive licenses under certain circumstances for landscape architects. License renewal fees are waived for landscape architect licensees older than 75 years of age.

### CHIROPRACTORS

An applicant for licensure as a chiropractor must furnish the State Board of Chiropractic Examiners with evidence that he or she has completed the minimum number of hours of course study required by the Council on Chiropractic Education, or its successor, prior to beginning any doctoral course of study in chiropractic. However, the applicant must have completed at least 90 semester credit hours before beginning the doctoral course.

### PHYSICAL THERAPISTS

The bill allows a person in an entry level of a professional education program approved by the Commission for Accreditation of Physical Therapists and Physical Therapist Assistant Education who is satisfying the supervised clinical education requirements

while under the on-site supervision of a physical therapist or practicing in the United States Armed Services, United States Public Health Service, or Veterans Administration to practice as a physical therapist.

The membership of the Advisory Commission for Physical Therapists under the State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts is changed from five to four licensed physical therapists and one licensed physical therapist assistant.

#### PROFESSIONAL COUNSELORS AND SOCIAL WORKERS

The bill prohibits state and local agencies, including school districts, from discriminating between licensed professional counselors when establishing rules or when requiring or recommending services that may be legally performed by licensed professional counselors.

The reciprocity provision regarding professional counselors is changed to allow a person licensed as a professional counselor in another state who is at least 18 years of age, of good moral character, and a citizen of or legally present in the United States to receive a license without passing an examination.

The complaint procedure and document retention requirements are revised when an inmate files a complaint against a licensed professional counselor or licensed clinical social worker. When a complaint by an inmate is found to be lacking merit, no further disciplinary action will take place, no documentation will appear on file, and no notification will be given to the Committee for Professional Counselors or the State Committee for Social Workers within the department unless there are grounds for disciplinary action to be taken against a counselor's license. A licensee subject to a claim without merit prior to the effective date of the bill may request the committees to destroy documents pertaining to the claim, to notify other state licensing boards that the claim was unsubstantiated, and to supply him or her with a letter stating that the claim was unsubstantiated. Licensees will not be required to disclose the existence of unsubstantiated claims.

#### MARITAL AND FAMILY THERAPISTS

The reciprocity provision regarding licensed marital and family therapists is changed to allow a person holding a current, unsanctioned license from another state whose requirements are substantially the same as Missouri's to apply for a license with the State Committee on Marital and Family Therapists without passing an examination.

## PHARMACISTS

The bill changes the laws regarding the State Board of Pharmacy and pharmacists. The bill:

- (1) Removes the one-year time limit for an intern pharmacist license;
- (2) Repeals the provision authorizing the board to establish rules restricting the practice of intern pharmacists;
- (3) Creates a veterinary class for pharmacy permits or licenses; and
- (4) Specifies that the veterinary pharmacy permit will not interfere with a licensed veterinarian when compounding or dispensing his or her own prescriptions.

## REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS

The bill changes the laws regarding the Missouri Real Estate Appraisers Commission and real estate appraisers. The bill:

- (1) Repeals the provision that requires members of the commission to be members in good standing of a nationally recognized real estate appraisal organization and the provision regarding the term of office of initial members of the commission;
- (2) Repeals the provisions authorizing the commission to decide the location of future quarterly meetings and to waive continuing education requirements for retired or disabled appraisers;
- (3) Authorizes the commission to administer oaths and issue and enforce subpoenas;
- (4) Allows a person to renew his or her expired license within a two-year period if evidence of the completion of all continuing education requirements is provided and authorizes the commission to issue inactive licenses; and
- (5) Establishes an inactive license for a licensee who requests it.

## DISQUALIFICATION LIST

The Department of Health and Senior Services is required to provide the employee disqualification list to any school of nursing, school of medicine, or school of any other health profession to verify whether students participating in patient

care services are on the disqualification list. The list identifies individuals who have been determined by the department to have recklessly, knowingly, or purposely abused or neglected an in-home services or home health patient while employed by an in-home services provider or home health agency.