

HB 480 -- PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

SPONSOR: Ross

This bill establishes guidelines for the regulation of occupations and professions not currently regulated by the Division of Professional Registration. The bill specifies that the state may not impose a substantial burden on an individual's pursuit of his or her occupation or profession unless there is an important governmental interest for the state to protect the general welfare. If an interest exists, the regulation adopted by the state must be substantially related to the public interest to be protected. All bills introduced in the General Assembly to regulate an occupation or profession for the first time must be reviewed according to specified criteria (Section 324.001, RSMo).

For any new board or commission charged with regulating or licensing an occupation or profession, the bill specifies that those practitioners actively engaged in a newly regulated occupation or profession for at least one year prior to the effective date of the regulatory statute must have a property right in his or her continued legal ability to engage in his or her occupation or profession and specified due process rights. Any refusal of licensure by the board shall be in writing and any practitioner denied licensure shall then have the right to appeal the decision (Section 621.280).

This bill is the same as HB 272 (2017) and similar to HB 1466 (2016) and HB 634 (2015).