

HCS HB 1710 -- PROFESSIONAL REGISTRATION

SPONSOR: Grier

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Rules- Administrative Oversight Committee by a vote of 14 to 0.

This bill requires all state boards, departments, or agencies that issue professional licenses to grant a Missouri license to an applicant who holds a current, valid license issued by another state, if that state's licensure requirements are substantially similar to those of Missouri; except if the applicant is currently under disciplinary action in the other state, or if the board, department, or agency determines that it would endanger the public health, safety, or welfare.

The bill shall not conflict with any interjurisdictional or interstate compact adopted by Missouri statute, as specified in the bill.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill will remove barriers to people practicing their professions.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Grier; Americans For Prosperity; and Wendy Doyle, Women's Foundation.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that this bill should not apply to health care professions. The boards that license health care professionals already have reciprocal agreements with other states and the current system is working. Witnesses also testified that they aren't sure how this bill will affect existing interstate compacts for certain professions.

Testifying on the bill were Missouri State Medical Association; Emily Johnson, Institute of Public Policy-MU; and Association of Missouri Nurse Practitioners.