



2025 STATE LEGISLATIVE WATCHLIST

Last updated: March 4, 2025

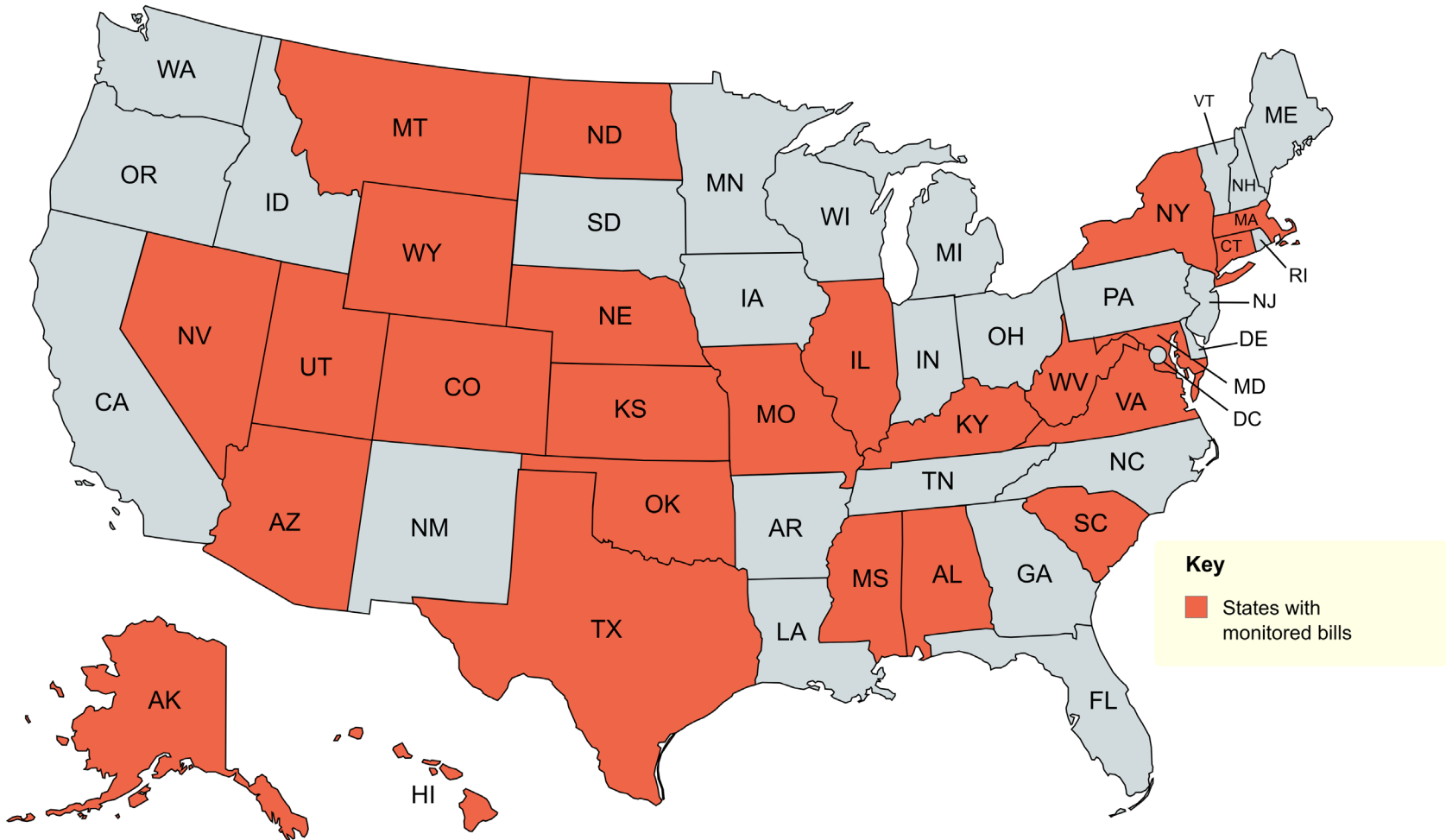






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Total Bills Monitored	Total States with Monitored Bills	Total Returning Citizens Bills	Total Review and Repeal	Total Consumer Choice Bills	Total First Amendment/Viewpoint Restriction Bills	Total Alt. Pathways Bills
55	25	23	10	2	0	19

KEY	
	High priority
	Carried over from the 2024 legislative session
	Reintroduced bill from a previous legislative session
	Bill summarized for the first time in current version of watchlist
Dead	
Under consideration in first chamber	
Passed first chamber and under consideration in second	
Awaiting governor's signature	
Enacted	

Alabama	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Feb. 2, 2025 – May 15, 2025	n/a	No

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
AL	HB 238 *REPEAT*	2/11/2025	Rep. Parker Moore (R)	Passed House (02/25/2025) Read for the first time and referred to the Senate Committee on Judiciary (2/27/2025)	In Senate	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Returning Citizens • Note: This bill is largely a reintroduction of SB 79– monitored on the 2024 watchlist – which failed when the legislative session ended. • Prohibits an occupational licensing board from denying an application for a license due to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A criminal conviction that is not directly related to the duties and responsibilities of the profession or occupation for which a license is required. ○ A criminal conviction has been pardoned, sealed, expunged or otherwise nullified or made confidential by the jurisdiction from which it originated. ○ An arrest that did not result in a criminal conviction and for which criminal charges are not currently pending. ○ An applicant’s lack of “good moral character” or failure to adhere to any similarly vague or generic standard. • Provides that, when determining whether a criminal conviction directly relates to the duties and responsibilities of the occupation or profession, the licensing board must consider all of the following factors on a case-by-case basis: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The nature and seriousness of a crime for which the individual was convicted; ○ The nature of the specific duties and responsibilities for which the license is required; 					


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The age of the individual at the time of the Commission of the crime; ○ The passage of time since the Commission of the crime; ○ Any evidence of rehabilitation or treatment undertaken by the individual that might mitigate the direct relationship between the criminal conviction and the duties and responsibilities of the profession or occupation sought. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provides that a valid order of limited relief creates a presumption that an individual's criminal conviction is not directly related to the duties and responsibilities for which a license is required.
<p>Comments and Proposed Changes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Amend Section 41-9A-2(a)(1) to read: “A criminal conviction that is not directly related to the duties and responsibilities of the profession or occupation for which the license is required. A criminal conviction is ‘specific and directly to the duties and responsibilities for the licensed occupation’ if the circumstances of the offense and the nature of the occupation would create an unreasonable risk to public safety, health, or welfare for an individual to practice the licensed profession.” ● Amend Section 41-9A-2(b) to add a new factor (6): “Whether the circumstances of the offense and the nature of the occupation would create an unreasonable risk to public safety, health, or welfare for an individual to practice the licensed profession.” ● Add a safe harbor provision: “Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a private certification organization to grant or deny private certification to any individual, nor alter or impair any requirement in a licensure statute or regulation for an individual to hold current private certification as a condition of licensure or renewal of licensure.”

Alaska	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 21, 2025 – May 21, 2025	n/a	Yes

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
AK	SB 51	Jan. 24, 2025	Robb Myers (R)	Read and Referred to Committee on Labor and Commerce (1/24/2025)	In Senate	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Review and Repeal • Establishes the “Sunrise Review Board,” which shall review legislation proposing changes to licensure, unless the proposed change has been the subject of review within the preceding four years. • The Sunrise Review Board is also charged with reviewing “other proposed changes to licensure” upon request by: (i) the governor, a legislator or the head of a principal executive department of the state; or (ii) a person practicing or group representing a profession or occupation. • Any proposed change that would regulate the practice of a profession must be accompanied by documentation of “specific harms caused to the public by a lack of regulation” as well as the cost, availability, and appropriateness of training and exam requirements, among other things. • When reviewing proposed changes, the board must evaluate: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Possibility of harm arising from the unregulated practice of the profession; ○ Whether the public needs and reasonably expects to benefit from “an assurance of initial and ongoing professional or occupational competence” and whether the public would be protected through other, more cost-effective means; and ○ The anticipated costs. • If the board concludes that harm may arise from the unregulated practice, it shall recommend the “least-restrictive means” necessary to protect public interest and, when possible, the board “shall recommend regulating a business or employer” rather than a profession or occupation. • The board <u>shall</u> recommend the least-restrictive type of regulation within the following categories: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ strengthening protections under the state’s Unfair Trade Practices and Consumer Protection Act if the proposed change is intended to protect consumers against fraud; ○ requiring periodic inspections if the proposed change is predominantly intended to protect against 					

	<p>unsanitary facilities or general health, safety, or welfare concerns;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ requiring bonding or insurance if the proposed change is predominantly intended to protect against potential damages to third parties; ○ requiring registration with the state if the proposed change is predominantly intended to protect against potential damages by persons who, while physically located in the state, practice a profession or occupation in an organized borough of the state or a census area in an unorganized borough of the state for less than 30 days in a calendar year; ○ offering voluntary state certification, unless suitable private voluntary certification exists, if the proposed change is predominantly intended to protect against asymmetric information between the seller and buyer; ○ developing formal licensure if the proposed change is predominantly intended to protect the immediate health and safety of consumers or the general public and no other adequate system of regulation exists. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Defines “possibility of harm” to mean a clear potential that the unregulated practice of a profession or occupation could endanger the health, safety, or welfare of the public.” ● Requires the board to prepare and deliver a copy of a report to the person who requested the review.
<p>Comments and Proposed Changes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The bill calls only for a report with recommendations, so it is not as immediately concerning as bills calling for expiration or abolition of regulations or licensure agencies. The aim of the bill, however, is clearly to push for rollback of current licensure requirements. ● Add a safe harbor provision: “Nothing in this article shall be construed to require a private certification organization to grant or deny private certification to any individual.” ● Add another safe harbor provision: “Notwithstanding any other provision in this article, the state may regulate and adopt licensure requirements for any occupation for which the licensure requirements are based on uniform national laws, practices, and/or examinations that have been adopted by at least two-thirds of states and territories in the United States.”


Arizona	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 13, 2025 – Apr. 26, 2025	n/a	No

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
AZ	HB 2282 *REPEAT* 	01/21/2025	Cesar Aguilar (D)	House Second Reading (01/22/2025)	In House	Oppose	High
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Alt. Pathways • Note: This bill is a reintroduction of HB 2829 – monitored on the 2024 watchlist – which failed when the legislative session ended. • Requires an occupational regulating authority under Title 32 to establish the criteria necessary for granting licenses, certificates, or registrations, as appropriate, through apprenticeship programs. • An applicant must complete a U.S. DOL-approved or a Department of Economic Security-approved apprenticeship program in the professional area in which the applicant seeks licensure, certification, or registration either at a school licensed by AZ or by training with a person who is licensed by the state and who holds the same license, certificate, or registration for which the applicant is applying. • If the occupational regulating authority requires successful completion of an examination for licensure, certification or registration, the applicant must successfully complete that examination. The passing score on the examination may not discriminate between an applicant from an apprenticeship program and an applicant from a vocational or trade school. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is a sweeping bill as Title 32 covers architects, engineers, geologists, barbers, cosmetologists, CPAs, podiatrists, chiropractors, dentists, funeral home directors, physicians, nurses, optometrists, pharmacists, physical therapists, psychologists, veterinarians, real estate agents, physician assistants, radiologists, occupational therapists, and others. • This bill would require, for example, the Arizona state medical board to establish rules allowing a candidate to take the USMLE as long as the candidate completed a state-approved apprenticeship program, without the candidate attending or completing medical school, in order to obtain a license as a doctor. It's also not clear how this would apply to professions such as physician assistants or occupational therapists, both of which currently require that licensees pass a private national certification exam (administered by NCCPA for PAs and NBCOT for OTs), that the candidate is only eligible to take if the candidate first completes an accredited master's-level program. 					

Connecticut	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 8, 2025 – Jun. 4, 2025	n/a	No

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
CT	SB 723	01/16/2025	Ryan Fazio (R) Jeffrey Gordon (R) Jaime Foster (D)	Referred to Joint Committee on Veterans' and Military Affairs (1/16/2025)	In Senate	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Alt. Pathways • Provides that, if any veteran, member of the armed forces, or “immediate family” of a member of the armed forces is the holder of an occupational license in another state, the corresponding licensing authority for the occupation in the State of Connecticut shall be considered valid at a “similar scope of practice” upon application thereto. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a new provision, “Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, if the occupational licensing rules of the board require applicants to hold a current and valid private certification, the board must require the applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section to hold that private certification before issuing a license under this section. Where a licensing law specifies a private certification or other substantive qualifications as alternative eligibility standards for a license, an applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section must either hold that current and valid private certification or demonstrate qualifications at least equivalent to the alternative eligibility standards required in this state for practice of that lawful occupation.” 					

Colorado	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 8, 2025 – May 7, 2025	Mar. 14, 2025	No

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
CO	SB 25-156 	2/5/2025	Janice Rich (R)	Senate Committee on State, Veterans, & Military Affairs Postpone Indefinitely (3/4/2025)	Failed	Oppose	High
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Review and Repeal • Titled the “Colorado Right to Earn a Living Act.” • Provides that an agency shall not adopt or administer an occupational regulation unless the specific regulation is demonstrably necessary and narrowly tailored to achieve a specific, legitimate public health, safety, or welfare objective. Defines “welfare” as the protection of the public against fraud or harm, and that it shall be construed narrowly. • On or before July 1, 2026, requires each agency to review of all occupational regulations adopted or administered by it, and if the agency determines an occupational regulation is not demonstrably necessary and narrowly tailored as described above, the agency must repeal or amend the occupational regulation. • Permits an individual to petition an agency requesting the repeal of, an amendment to, or the cessation of administration of an occupational regulation on the grounds that the regulation is not demonstrably necessary and narrowly tailored. Requires an agency to, in response, repeal, amend, or issue a statement explaining how the regulation is demonstrably necessary and narrowly tailored. • Creates a private right of action for an individual to challenge the adoption or enforcement of an occupational regulation and provides that a plaintiff will prevail if they prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the challenged occupational regulation imposes a burden on entry to a profession or occupation and the agency does not prove by a preponderance of the evidence that the occupational regulation is (1) specifically required by law or (2) demonstrably necessary and narrowly tailored and the least restrictive regulation. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove new section 24-4-307. 					



Hawaii	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 15, 2025 – May 2, 2025	Mar. 6, 2025	Yes

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
HI	SB 418	01/15/2025	Angus McKelvey (D) Stanley Chang (D) Kurt Fevella (R) Troy Hashimoto (D) Karol Rhoads (D) Joy San Buenaventura (D)	Report adopted; Passed Second Reading, as amended (SD 1) and referred to WAM/JDC. (02/10/2025)	In Senate	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Review and Repeal • Requires a regulatory review of all administrative rules adopted by state agencies with the goal of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ (1) identifying and repealing rules that are no longer necessary, outdated, or duplicative; ○ (2) identifying rules that are not supported by statutory authority; ○ (3) simplifying and streamlining rules to reduce regulatory burdens; and ○ (4) improving clarity and accessibility of administration rules. • Requires each state agency to submit an annual report summarizing its findings to the department of the attorney general. Based on these findings, the department of the attorney general shall compile an annual regulatory review summarizing findings and recommendations for all state agencies, which will be reported to the legislature at least twenty days prior to the convening of each regular session. • As part of the review process, state agencies must seek input from stakeholders and the public by establishing a list of rules under review on the agency’s website, accepting public comment and hosting public hearings. • Requires the department of attorney general to adopt rules to implement the regulatory review program. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On its face, this bill is not as concerning as other Review and Repeal bills, first because it only calls for a report of recommendations, and second because it broadly applies to <i>all</i> administrative rules adopted by state agencies (rather than those related to occupational licenses and certification). Additionally, the aim of the bill is to overhaul the “rules and fees that may not be legally valid anymore since the authority to establish these rules no longer exists or is irrelevant.” • That said, the bill provides for the adoption of rules to implement the program, which may be more narrowly tailored to licensure and certification. Additionally, the introduction to the bill references Idaho’s extreme review and repeal 					

law.


- Add a provision: **“Notwithstanding any other provision in this Act, no statute authorizing an occupational regulatory program shall be repealed if the Legislature does not engage in systemic review of the program prior to scheduled repeal date in this Act; in such cases, the scheduled repeal date shall be postponed to July 1st of the following calendar year.”**

Illinois	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 8, 2025 – May 31, 2025	Apr. 11, 2025	Yes

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
IL	HB 1338 *REPEAT* 	01/14/2025	Paul Jacobs (R) Maurice West (D)	First Reading; Referred to Rules Committee (01/28/2025)	In House	Amend	High
IL	HB 2614 *REPEAT* 	02/04/2025	Adam Niemerg (R)	First Reading; Referred to Rules Committee (02/06/2025)	In House	Amend	High

Bill Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Alt. Pathways • Note: This bill is a repeat of HB 5608 – monitored on the 2024 watchlist – which failed when the legislative session ended. • Provides that, notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a board shall issue an occupational license or government certification to a person upon application if all of the following apply: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The person holds a current and valid license or gov’t certification in another jurisdiction in a lawful occupation with a similar scope of practice (as determined by the board); 2. The person has held the occupational license or gov’t certification for at least one (1) year and is in good standing 3. The board required the person to pass an examination or meet education, training, or experience standards; 4. The person does not have a disqualifying criminal record; 5. No board has revoked the person’s license or gov’t certification because of negligence or intentional misconduct; 6. The person does not have a pending complaint, allegation, or investigation before a board in another jurisdiction which relates to unprofessional conduct or an alleged crime. If the person does have such a complaint, the Commonwealth shall not issue a license or certification to the person until the complaint is resolved or the person otherwise meets the criteria for a license or certification to the satisfaction of the board; and 7. The person pays all applicable fees. • Provides that, notwithstanding any other law, a board shall issue a license or gov’t certification to a person or military spouse upon an application based on work experience in another jurisdiction, if all of the following
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	<p>apply:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The person worked in a jurisdiction that does not use an occupational license or gov't certificate to regulate the lawful occupation; ○ The person worked for at least one (1) year in the occupation; and ○ The person satisfies the requirements of 3 – 7 above. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provides that a board may require a person to pass an exam specific to relevant state laws that regulate the occupation.
Comments and Proposed Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Add a new provision, “Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, if the occupational licensing rules of the board require applicants to hold a current and valid private certification, the board must require the applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section to hold that private certification before issuing a license under this section. Where a licensing law specifies a private certification or other substantive qualifications as alternative eligibility standards for a license, an applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section must either hold that current and valid private certification or demonstrate qualifications at least equivalent to the alternative eligibility standards required in this state for practice of that lawful occupation.”

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
IL	SB 2347 	02/07/2025	Christopher Belt (D)	First reading; referred to Assignments (02/07/2025)	In Senate	Amend	High
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Category: Returning Citizens ● Amends current law to require that the Department of Financial and Professional Regulation consider whether an applicant's prior conviction is “directly related to...the duties, functions, and responsibilities of the position” instead of whether the prior conviction “will impair the ability of the applicant to engage in the practice.” ● Defines “directly related” as “the employment position offers the opportunity for the same offense or a similar offense to occur and the circumstances leading to the conduct for which the person was convicted are likely to reoccur.” ● Requires the Department to consider the following factors when evaluating whether a prior conviction is directly related to the ability of an applicant to safely perform the duties, functions, and responsibilities of the position: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The length of time since the prior conviction; ○ The number of prior convictions that appear on the conviction record; 					


	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The nature and severity of the prior conviction and its relationship to the safety and security of others; ○ The facts and circumstances surrounding the prior conviction; ○ The age of the applicant at the time of the prior conviction; and ○ Any evidence of rehabilitative efforts. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adds to the current list of criminal history records that the Department shall not require applicants to report and shall not consider in connection with an application for licensure, registration, or certification: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Records of a nonviolent misdemeanor; ○ A conviction older than 3 years for which the applicant was not incarcerated or a conviction for which the applicant's incarceration ended more than 3 years before the date of the Department's evaluation of the applicant's application, except for a felony conviction related to a criminal sexual act; criminal fraud or embezzlement; aggravated assault; aggravated robbery; aggravated abuse, neglect, or endangerment of a child or vulnerable adult; arson; carjacking; kidnapping; or manslaughter, homicide, or murder.
<p>Comments and Proposed Changes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Revise the definition of "directly related" to read "the employment position offers the opportunity for the same offense or a similar offense to occur and the circumstances leading to the conduct for which the person was convicted are likely to reoccur, and/or would be grounds for disciplinary action against a current licensee." ● Add to the list of factors the Department must consider in Sec. 2105-131(b) a new factor (7): "Whether the circumstances of the offense and the nature of the occupation would create an unreasonable risk to public safety, health, or welfare for the applicant to practice the licensed profession or occupation." ● Add a safe harbor provision: "Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a private certification organization to grant or deny private certification to any individual, nor alter or impair any requirement in a licensure statute or regulation for an individual to hold current private certification as a condition of licensure or renewal of licensure." ● Remove the amended Sec. 2105-135(c)(5) and (6).

Kansas	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 13, 2025 – Apr. 12, 2025	Feb. 20, 2025	Yes

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
KS	SB 229	2/6/2025	Senate Committee on Commerce	Withdrawn from Committee on Commerce; Referred to Committee on Ways and Means (2/14/2025)	In Senate	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Review and Repeal • Provides that, beginning on July 1, 2025, any occupational license requirement in effect or subsequently adopted shall terminate five years later unless the legislature acts to continue the requirement, after a specific review and reporting procedure, for another five years or until the proper notice of termination is provided and review is conducted. • Requires the secretary of state to monitor the termination dates of occupational license requirements and notify the adopting agency 18 months prior to the requirements' termination date, and simultaneously, identify and certify the termination date to the speaker of the house and president of the senate. If the secretary does not provide notice for a requirement, such requirement shall remain in effect until 18 months after notice is provided. • On July 15th the year before a requirement is set to terminate, the revisor of statutes must notify the speaker of the house and president of the senate. If such notification is not provided, the requirement will not terminate until the proper notice and review occurs. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add that “nothing in this Chapter is intended to restrict an agency from requiring, as a condition of licensure, that an individual’s personal qualifications include obtaining or maintaining private certification from a private organization that credentials individuals in the relevant occupation.” • Add a safe harbor provision: “Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a private certification organization to grant or deny private certification to any individual.” • Add another safe harbor provision: “the state may regulate and adopt licensure requirements for any occupation for which the licensure requirements are based on uniform national laws, practices, and/or examinations that have been adopted by at least two-thirds of states and territories in the United States.” • Oppose the Sunset Provisions, or in the alternative add: “Notwithstanding any other provision in this Act, no statute authorizing an occupational regulatory program shall be repealed if the Legislature does not engage 					

	<p>in systemic review of the program prior to scheduled repeal date in this Act; in such cases, the scheduled repeal date shall be postponed to July 1st of the following calendar year.”</p>
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Kentucky	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 7, 2025 – Mar. 28, 2025	n/a	No

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
KY	HB 133 *REPEAT* 	1/8/2025	Steve Doan (R) T.J. Roberts (R)	To Licensing, Occupations, & Administrative Regulations (H) (2/4/2025)	In House	Amend	High
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Alt. Pathways • Note: This bill is a repeat of HB 34 – monitored on the 2024 watchlist – which failed when the legislative session ended. • Provides that, notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a Kentucky board shall issue an occupational license or government certification to a person or military spouse upon application if all of the following apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The person holds a current and valid license or gov’t certification in another jurisdiction in a lawful occupation with a similar scope of practice 2. The person has held the occupational license or gov’t certification for at least one (1) year and is in good standing 3. The board required the person to pass an examination or meet education, training, or experience standards; 4. The person does not have a disqualifying criminal record; 5. No board has revoked the person’s license or gov’t certification because of negligence or intentional misconduct; 6. The person does not have a pending complaint, allegation, or investigation before a board in another jurisdiction which relates to unprofessional conduct or an alleged crime. If the person does have such a complaint, the Commonwealth shall not issue a license or certification to the person until the complaint is resolved or the person otherwise meets the criteria for a license or certification to the satisfaction of the board; and 7. The person pays all applicable fees. • Provides that, notwithstanding any other law, a board shall issue a license or gov’t certification to a person or military spouse upon an application based on work experience in another jurisdiction, if all of the following apply: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The person worked in a jurisdiction that does not use an occupational license or gov’t certificate to regulate the lawful occupation; ○ The person worked for at least one (1) year in the occupation; and 					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The person satisfies the requirements of 3 – 7 above. • Provides that a board may require a person to pass an exam specific to relevant state laws that regulate the occupation.
Comments and Proposed Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a new provision, “Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, if the occupational licensing rules of the board require applicants to hold a current and valid private certification, the board must require the applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section to hold that private certification before issuing a license under this section. Where a licensing law specifies a private certification or other substantive qualifications as alternative eligibility standards for a license, an applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section must either hold that current and valid private certification or demonstrate qualifications at least equivalent to the alternative eligibility standards required in this state for practice of that lawful occupation.”



State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
KY	HB 103 *REPEAT*	1/8/2025	Nima Kulkarni (D) George Brown (D)	To Licensing, Occupations, & Administrative Regulations (H) (2/4/2025)	In House	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Returning Citizens • Note: This bill is largely a reintroduction of HB 117 – monitored on the 2024 watchlist – which failed when the legislative session ended. • Current law provides that a person shall not be disqualified from pursuing, practicing, or engaging in any occupation for which a license is required solely because of a prior conviction, unless the crime for which they were convicted directly relates to the occupation for which the license is sought. HB 103 amends this provision to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Add that the crime must also pose a reasonable threat to public safety, health, or welfare, and Provide that a person shall not be disqualified solely because of a finding that an applicant lacks good character or fails to meet any other similar standard where a criminal conviction is the basis for the finding. • Adds to the factors to be considered in determining whether a conviction directly relates to the occupation for which the license is sought: (i) the age of the person at the time the crime was committed; (ii) evidence relevant to the circumstances of the crime, including any aggravating or mitigating circumstances or social conditions surrounding the commission of the crime; and (iii) any evidence of rehabilitation submitted by the applicant • Adds a new section to provide that no person shall be disqualified from pursuing, practicing, or engaging in any 					

	<p>occupation for which a license is required solely due to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A conviction that has been sealed or expunged; ○ A conviction or plea of guilty or nolo contendere for which more than five (5) years have elapsed since the date of conviction, plea, or release from incarceration, whichever is later, so long as the person has not been convicted of a new crime; or ○ A finding that an applicant lacks good character or fails to meet “any other similarly vague standard” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides that the above shall not apply to any conviction or plea of guilty or nolo contendere for a Class A felony, a Class B felony, or any felony offense that would qualify the individual as a registrant • Provides that a person may, at any time, make a request regarding a determination of whether the prior conviction may disqualify the individual from obtaining the desired license or certification.
<p>Comments and Proposed Changes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Revise the definition of “pose a reasonable threat” in KRS335B.010 to read: “‘Pose a reasonable threat’ means the nature of the criminal conduct for which the person was convicted involved an act or threat of harm against another and has a bearing on the person’s fitness or ability to serve the public or work with others in the occupation, and/or would be grounds for disciplinary action against a current licensee ;” • Add a definition of “harm” in in KRS335B.010 to read: “‘Harm’ includes damage to an individual or the public’s safety, health, or welfare.” • Add to the list of factors the hiring or licensing authority must consider in KRS 335B.020(2) a new factor (g): “Whether the circumstances of the offense and the nature of the occupation would create an unreasonable risk to public safety, health, or welfare for the applicant to practice the licensed profession or occupation.” • Add a safe harbor provision: “Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a private certification organization to grant or deny private certification to any individual, nor alter or impair any requirement in a licensure statute or regulation for an individual to hold current private certification as a condition of licensure or renewal of licensure.”

Maryland	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 8, 2025 – Apr. 7, 2025	Mar. 17, 2025	No

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MD	HB 482	01/20/2025	Andrea Harrison (D)	Passed House (2/25/2025); Referred Finance, Education, Energy, and the Environment (2/26/2025)	In House	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Returning Citizens • Amends current law to establish a predetermination review process for occupational licenses and certificates by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Allowing an individual to file a request with a relevant department for review of the individual’s criminal history to determine whether the individual’s criminal history would disqualify the individual from obtaining the occupational license or certificate being sought and provides that the determination shall be binding on the department. ○ Allowing the individual to submit a revised request after one year or upon completion of certain outlined remedial actions. • Provides that nothing in the Act shall be construed to override, supersede, or invalidate any compact or agreement already in place with regard to the regulation of any profession or occupation by a department or supersede the authority of a department to require an applicant or a licensee to submit to a criminal history records review. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend Section 1-209 (f)(2)(II) to read “The determination of a department regarding whether the occupational license or certificate would be approved or denied to the individual requesting the predetermination under subparagraph (I) of this paragraph shall be binding on the department unless there is a subsequent direct and material adverse change to the individual’s criminal history or unless the individual’s predetermination application omitted material adverse information.” 					

Massachusetts	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 1, 2025 – Nov. 19, 2025	n/a	Yes



State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MA	HD 378 *REPEAT* 	1/8/2025	David LeBoeuf (D) Steve Ultrino (D)	Filed (1/8/2025)	In House	Amend	High
MA	SD 635 *REPEAT* 	1/14/2025	Cindy Creem (D)	Filed (1/14/2025)	In Senate	Amend	High

Bill Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Returning Citizens • Note: these bills are a reintroduction of H 4602– monitored on the 2024 watchlist – which failed when the legislative session ended. • Provides that a licensing authority shall give individualized consideration to an applicant’s circumstances when determining whether to deny, diminish, suspend, revoke, withhold, or otherwise limit a professional or occupational license. • Prohibits a licensing authority from considering, or requiring an applicant to disclose: (i) a deferred adjudication; (ii) a conviction for which no incarceration may be imposed; (iii) a conviction that has been sealed, annulled, dismissed, vacated, set aside, expunged, or pardoned; (iv) a juvenile adjudication; (v) a non-violent misdemeanor; (vi) a conviction that occurred more than 3 years prior to the date of the licensing authority’s consideration or where the applicant’s incarceration ended more than 3 years before the date of the licensing authority’s consideration, except for certain crimes including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A crime punishable for a term longer than two and a half years, or certain juvenile acts involving a deadly weapon that would be punishable by imprisonment for such term if committed by an adult; ○ A felony related to a sex offense, a sex offense involving a child, or a sexually violent offense; or ○ A felony related to criminal fraud • Provides that a licensing authority may only deny, diminish, suspend, revoke, withhold, or otherwise limit a professional or occupational license if it determines, by clear and convincing evidence, that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (i) an applicant’s non-excluded criminal record directly relates to the duties and responsibilities of the profession or occupation; (ii) if an applicant’s non-excluded criminal record is directly related to the duties and
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	<p>responsibilities of the profession or occupation, the licensing authority must determine if the interest of the licensing authority in protecting the public, an individual, or property from harm outweighs the applicant's right to hold the professional or occupational license; and (iii) if the licensing authority determines the harm outweighs the right to hold the license, the licensing authority shall determine if the applicant has failed to be rehabilitated.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides that, if the criminal record is directly related to the performance, duties, responsibilities, practices, or functions of the profession, the licensing authority must consider the following, in a light most favorable to the applicant to demonstrate rehabilitation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The age of applicant at the time of the offense; ○ The length of time since the offense; ○ The completion of a criminal sentence, not including financial obligations; ○ A certificate of rehabilitation, restoration of rights or good conduct; ○ Completion of, or active participation in, rehabilitative drug or alcohol treatment or similar programs; ○ Testimonials and recommendation, including progress reports from probation or parole officer; ○ Education and training ○ Employment history ○ The applicant's responsibilities, including civic and community engagement or family contributions ○ Whether the applicant will be bonded in the occupation; and ○ Other evidence of rehabilitation or information that the applicant submitted to the licensing authority, including mitigating circumstances. • Requires a licensing authority, at least once every three years, to review and issue a report on their license application review and approval processes to ensure that those decision promote economic opportunities while fostering public safety in a manner consistent with the stated objectives of applicable statutes. • Creates a special commission on background record requirements and good moral character for occupational licensure consisting of 11 members.
<p>Comments and Proposed Changes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend Section 172N(c)(5) to read “a non-violent misdemeanor other than a criminal sexual act or fraud.” • Amend Section 172N(d) to read: “A licensing authority may deny, diminish, suspend, revoke, withhold or otherwise limit a professional or occupational license only if the licensing authority determines, by clear and convincing evidence, that: • Amend Section 172N(d)(1) to read: “First, an applicant’s non-excluded criminal record directly relates to the duties and responsibilities of the profession or occupation. A criminal record is directly related to the duties and responsibilities of the profession or occupation if, given the circumstances of the offense in an individual’s criminal record and the nature of potential performance in the particular profession or

	<p>occupation which the individual is seeks to practice would create an unreasonable risk to public safety, health, or welfare for the individual to practice the profession, or if the underlying conduct resulting in the conviction would be grounds for disciplinary action against a current licensee, certificant, or other individual holding state recognition.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add a safe harbor provision in Section 172N: “Nothing in the chapter shall be construed to require a private certification organization to grant or deny private certification to any individual, nor alter any requirement in a licensure statute or regulation for an individual to hold current private certification as a condition of licensure or renewal of licensure.”
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Missouri	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 8, 2025 - May 16, 2025		No

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	SB 61 *REPEAT* 	1/8/2025	Ben Brown (R)	Formal Calendar S Bills for Perfection (3/5/2025)	In Senate	Amend	High
MO	HB 478 *REPEAT* 	1/8/2025	Philip Oehlerking (R)	Referred: Rules - Administrative(H) (2/19/2025)	In House	Amend	High
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Alt. Pathways • Note: these bills are a reintroduction of HB 2099, SB 817, and HB 1962– monitored on the 2024 watchlist – all of which failed when the legislative session ended. • Permits a person with at least three years of out-of-state work experience in an occupation or profession where a license is not required in the out-of-state jurisdiction to apply for a one-time nonrenewable two-year temporary license to practice in Missouri. • Requires that the Missouri oversight body make a decision within 45 days of receipt of an application. • Provides that the Missouri oversight body shall require an applicant to take and pass the profession-specific exam required for licensure for in-state applicants. The Missouri oversight body <i>may</i> require an exam on Missouri law if such an exam is required for in-state applicants. • Prohibits the Missouri oversight body from issuing a temporary license to an applicant who has had a license in the relevant occupation or profession revoked by an out-of-state oversight body. • Exempts occupations whose oversight body has entered into a licensing compact with another state and certain enumerated professions, including electricians, general laborers, operating engineers, and truck drivers. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This bill would apply broadly to any applicant from another jurisdiction and does not require the oversight body to determine that the scope of the occupation or profession is substantially similar to that in Missouri. • It permits work experience to substitute for other substantive evidence of skills or competency if the applicant’s home state, territory, or branch of the military does not require licensure. There is no requirement that the individual’s qualifications meet or exceed the required qualifications for licensure in Missouri. Although the bill 					

	<p>authorizes oversight bodies that administer examinations on the laws of Missouri to require applicants to pass that examination, most licensing boards do not administer their own exams but rather rely on private certification examinations. Those requirements would be entirely bypassed under this bill with respect to any profession in which even a single state does not require licensure.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Section 324.004(1) should be amended to add a new requirement for reciprocal licensure, by adding: “Any person who has at least three years of work experience in an occupation or profession in another state, the District of Columbia, or any combination of such jurisdictions, and whose work experience involved the practice of an occupation or profession for which a license is not required in the jurisdiction or jurisdictions in which the person worked, but is required in this state may submit an application for a one-time nonrenewable two-year temporary license in this state in the occupation or profession, along with proof of at least three years of work experience in the occupation or profession, to the relevant oversight body in this state; provided that the person demonstrates at least substantially equivalent educational, training, examination, credential, and experience to that required for Missouri licensees in the occupation, as determined by the oversight body. The oversight body shall make a determination of disqualification within forty-five days of receiving a completed application.”
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State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MO	SB 302 *REPEAT*	1/8/2025	Steve Roberts (D)	Second Read and Referred S Judiciary and Civil and Criminal Jurisprudence Committee (2/13/2025)	In Senate	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category: Returning Citizens Note: this bill is a reintroduction of SB 1097 – monitored on the 2024 watchlist – which failed when the legislative session ended. Provides that the Circuit Courts of Missouri shall issue during or after sentencing or at any time upon petition by a “certificate of exemplary conduct and good moral character” to individuals who, by clear and convincing evidence, have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consistently conducted themselves in a manner warranting the issuance of a certificate; Consistently demonstrated that they are of good moral character; and Generally acted in a way that granting the certificate is consistent with the public interest. An eligible individual is defined as a person who has been convicted of an offense in the state or in any other jurisdiction that does not include an offense or attempted offense that would require a person to register as a sex offender. 					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides that a certificate shall not prevent any licensing authority or any other body from accessing or considering the eligible individual’s history—but also provides that a certificate “removes any or all bars an eligible individual faces with respect to employment, housing, or occupational licenses”
<p>Comments and Proposed Changes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While this bill permits a licensing organization to consider a person’s conviction history regardless of whether they have obtained a certificate of exemplary conduct and good moral character, the provision that “a certificate removes any or all bars an eligible individual faces with respect to employment, housing, or occupational licenses” suggests that the licensure board could not base denial of a license or disciplinary action on a conviction. • The provision does not appear to restrict enforcement of eligibility standards and conduct and ethics codes by private certification organizations and professional societies, as those decisions are not “employment, housing, or occupational licenses.” • Circuit court judges may not anticipate or be familiar with how an individual’s conduct may be relevant to a particular license. Accordingly, amend Section 314.211(2) to provide that “a certificate removes any or all automatic bars an eligible individual faces with respect to employment, housing, or occupational licenses but does not restrict a licensing authority from engaging in an individualized consideration of the relevance of the conduct leading to the conviction to the occupational license sought.” • Add a safe harbor provision: “Nothing in the chapter shall be construed to require a private certification organization to grant or deny private certification to any individual, nor alter any requirement in a licensure statute or regulation for an individual to hold current private certification as a condition of licensure or renewal of licensure.”

Mississippi	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 7, 2025 – Apr. 6, 2025	Feb. 14, 2025	No

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MS	SB 2287	1/20/2025	Jeff Tate	Died In Committee (2/4/2025)	Failed	Oppose	Medium
MS	HB 1183	1/20/2025	Brent Powell (R)	Died In Committee (2/4/2025)	Failed	Oppose	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Review and Repeal • Would require that any rule (except temporary rules) with a “significant economic impact” be scheduled to automatically expire after five years. • Defines “significant economic impact” to be a rule where “the total aggregate cost to all persons required to comply with that rule exceeds One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) annually.” 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These proposed amendments could have downstream effects on private certification organizations if a rule that relates to or requires private certification as a condition of licensure automatically expires after 5 years. • Accordingly, the PCC opposes this legislation as currently drafted. However, the PCC would not oppose it if, instead of automatic expiration, it called for a commission to identify rules with a “significant economic impact” and review whether they should be repealed or amended, as is the current process. 					

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MS	HB 447 *REPEAT*	1/10/2025	John Hines (D)	Died In Committee (2/4/2025)	In House	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Alt. Pathways • Note: this bill is a reintroduction of HB 129 – monitored on the 2024 watchlist – which failed in committee. • Provides that, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the applicable occupational licensing board shall accept military education, training, and service for some or all of the qualifications otherwise required for license or certification if: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The applicable board determines that the military education, training and service is substantially 					

	<p>equivalent to some or all of the qualifications otherwise required; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The applicant provides satisfactory evidence of completion of the education, training, or service as a member of the Armed Forces of the United States, the United States Reserves, the National Guard of any state, the Military Reserves of any state or the Naval Militia of any state. ● Provides that the applicable occupational licensing board shall issue a temporary license or certificate to a person who applies to the applicable occupational licensing board and provides satisfactory evidence of completion of education.
Comments and Proposed Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Add a new provision, “Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, if the occupational licensing rules of the board require applicants to hold a current and valid private certification, the board must require the applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section to hold that private certification before issuing a license under this section. Where a licensing law specifies a private certification or other substantive qualifications as alternative eligibility standards for a license, an applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section must either hold that current and valid private certification or demonstrate qualifications at least equivalent to the alternative eligibility standards required in this state for practice of that lawful occupation.”

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MS	SB 2248 *REPEAT*	1/20/2025	Daniel Sparks (R)	Passed Senate (2/13/2025) Referred To Accountability, Efficiency, Transparency (2/17/2025)	In Senate	Amend	Medium
MS	HB 869 *REPEAT*	1/16/2025	Tracey Rosebud (D)	Died In Committee (2/4/2025)	Failed	Amend	Medium
MS	HB 595 *REPEAT*	1/15/2025	Kabir Karriem (D)	Died In Committee (2/4/2025)	Failed	Amend	Medium
MS	HB 362 *REPEAT*	1/10/2025	Lee Yancey (D)	Died In Committee (2/4/2025)	Failed	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Category: Returning Citizens ● Note: these bills are reintroductions of HB 872 and HB 1303 – monitored on the 2024 watchlist – which failed in committee. 					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amends MS law to provide that the Fresh Start Act of 2019 shall supersede any other provision of law. Provides that a licensing board that determines an individual’s criminal record is directly related to the duties and responsibilities of the licensed occupation must document its findings in writing sufficient for a reviewing court.
Comments and Proposed Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whenever a bill includes the language “notwithstanding any other provision of law,” current requirements for private certification as a condition of licensure may be overridden. Add a safe harbor provision: “Nothing in the chapter shall be construed to require a private certification organization to grant or deny private certification to any individual, nor alter any requirement in a licensure statute or regulation for an individual to hold current private certification as a condition of licensure or renewal of licensure.” Amend Section 73-77-5 of existing law to add: “For purposes of this chapter, a conviction shall be considered to directly relate to the duties and responsibilities for the licensed occupation if the conduct resulting in the prior conviction would, if committed by a current licensee, be a basis for disciplinary action by the licensing authority.” Amend Section 73-77-7(2) of existing law to remove the clear and convincing standard of proof and read: “The licensing authority shall apply the clear and convincing standard of proof when examining examine the following factors to determine whether a person with a criminal record will be disqualified from receiving a license:” Add to the factors a licensing authority must examine in Section 73-77-7(2): “Whether the circumstances of the offense and the nature of the occupation would create an unreasonable risk to public safety, health, or welfare for an individual to practice the licensed profession.”

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MS	HB 270 *REPEAT*	1/10/2025	Carl Mickens (D)	Died In Committee (2/4/2025)	Failed	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category: Returning Citizens Note: this bill is a reintroduction of HB 72 – monitored on the 2024 watchlist – which failed in committee. Provides that licensing authorities shall not require an individual to disclose: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An arrest not followed by a conviction; A conviction that has been sealed, annulled, dismissed, expunged, pardoned, overturned, or vacated; A nonviolent misdemeanor; or 					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ A conviction older than three years for which the individual was not incarcerated, or a conviction for which the individual's incarceration ended more than three years prior to the licensing authorities' consideration, except for a conviction of a felony related to a criminal sexual act, criminal fraud or embezzlement, aggravated assault, aggravated robbery, aggravated abuse, neglect or endangerment of a child, arson, carjacking, kidnapping, or manslaughter, homicide or murder.
Comments and Proposed Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strike Section 73-77-7(2)(c) and (d). • Add a safe harbor provision: “Nothing in the chapter shall be construed to require a private certification organization to grant or deny private certification to any individual, nor alter any requirement in a licensure statute or regulation for an individual to hold current private certification as a condition of licensure or renewal of licensure.”

Montana	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 6, 2025 – Apr. 30, 2025	Mar. 4, 2025	No

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
MT	HB 246	01/06/2025	Ed Buttrey (R)	(S) Hearing : (S) Business, Labor and Economic Affairs (2/21/2025)	In Senate	Monitor	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Alt. Pathways • Amends Montana’s licensing reciprocity statute to provide that an out-of-state applicant for licensure by endorsement must have an active license in good standing from a jurisdiction whose license qualifications are “substantially equivalent” to the license qualifications of Montana. • Adds a new definition for “substantially equivalent” as “the education, examination, and experience requirements contained in the statutes and rules of another jurisdiction are comparable to or exceed the education, examination, and experience requirements contained in the licensing provisions of a profession or occupation under [Montana law].” • Provides that if the board determines that the qualifications are not substantially equivalent, the board shall determine whether the deficiency can be addressed by the applicant’s actual qualifications and work experience. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a new provision, “Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, if the occupational licensing rules of the board require applicants to hold a current and valid private certification, the board must require the applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section to hold that private certification before issuing a license under this section. Where a licensing law specifies a private certification or other substantive qualifications as alternative eligibility standards for a license, an applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section must either hold that current and valid private certification or demonstrate qualifications at least equivalent to the alternative eligibility standards required in this state for practice of that lawful occupation.” 					

Nebraska	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 8, 2025 – Jun. 9, 2025	n/a	Yes

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
NE	LB 634	1/22/2025	Ben Hansen (R)	Hearing scheduled in Special Committee on Executive Board – 3/6/2025 (2/3/2025)	In Legislature	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Review and Repeal • Creates the Legislative Sunset Review Committee for the purpose of reviewing “reviewable entities” and proposing legislation to eliminate or modify such reviewable entities. “Reviewable entities” include boards, councils, committees, commissions, funds, programs, or any other entity created by the legislature. • Requires all reviewable entities to submit to the Clerk of the Legislature, by a scheduled deadline, a report which includes information regarding the respective reviewable entity’s efficiency, effectiveness, and an assessment as to whether less restrictive or alternative methods of providing services would reduce costs or improve performance “while adequately protecting the public,” among other things. • Upon receipt of an entity’s report, the committee must review and make recommendations regarding best practices and alternatives, as well as evaluations of the “cost and consequences of discontinuing the reviewable entity.” • The committee must then send a copy of the report and recommendations, as to continuing, terminating, or amending the respective entity, to the Appropriations Committee of the Legislature and the Auditor of Public Accounts and hold public hearings to consider the information presented. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The bill calls only for a report with recommendations, so it is not as immediately concerning as bills calling for expiration or abolition of regulations or licensure agencies. The aim of the bill, however, is clearly to push for rollback of current licensure requirements. • Add a safe harbor provision: “Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a private certification organization to grant or deny private certification to any individual.” • Add another safe harbor provision: “the state may regulate and adopt licensure requirements for any occupation for which the licensure requirements are based on uniform national laws, practices, and/or examinations that have been adopted by at least two-thirds of states and territories in the United States.” 					

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Add another safe harbor provision: “Notwithstanding any other provision in this Act, no reviewable entity which is an occupational licensing program shall be dissolved if the legislature does not complete a systemic review of the reviewable entity prior to the scheduled dissolution date established by the committee; in such cases, the scheduled dissolution date shall be postponed to the following calendar year.”• Revise Sec. 5(1)(h) to replace “while adequately protecting the public” with “while adequately protecting the public health, safety, or welfare.” |
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Nevada	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Feb. 3, 2025 – Jun. 2, 2025	Apr. 22, 2025	No

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
NV	SB 78	11/20/2024	Senate Committee on Revenue and Economic Development	Read first time. To committee. (2/3/2025)	In Senate	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Review and Repeal • Requires the Office of Nevada Boards, Commissions and Councils Standards to periodically conduct a review of each board, commission, council and similar body to include an evaluation of the effectiveness, usefulness, cost and resource utilization of the board, among other things. • Provides that any board subject to review has the burden of proving that its “continuing existence is justified.” And requires the Office, upon conclusion of review, to submit to the Governor a recommendation as to whether the entity should be terminated, modified, or consolidated with another entity. • Requires the Governor, if necessary, to request the drafting of a legislative measure to effectuate the recommendation. • Further prohibits any such entity from requesting that any person or governmental entity submit to the Legislative Counsel a request for the drafting of a legislative measure on behalf of the entity, other than as permitted by the Deputy Director of the Office. • Provides that, if the entity under review is an advisory body, the advisory body under review will be recommended to continue if the Office finds, among other things, that the duties and responsibilities of the advisory body are not overly duplicative of any other entity. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Although this bill requires the Governor to request legislation to effectuate the Office’s recommendation, if necessary, this is not as immediately concerning as bills calling for expiration or abolition of regulations or licensure agencies because any legislation proposing the termination of a licensing entity would still have to pass legislative review. • The aim of the bill, however, is clearly to push for rollback of current licensure requirements. • Add a safe harbor provision: “Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a private certification organization to grant or deny private certification to any individual.” 					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add that “nothing in this Chapter is intended to restrict an agency from requiring, as a condition of licensure, that an individual’s personal qualifications include obtaining or maintaining private certification from a private organization that credentials individuals in the relevant occupation.” • Add another safe harbor provision: “the state may regulate and adopt licensure requirements for any occupation for which the licensure requirements are based on uniform national laws, practices, and/or examinations that have been adopted by at least two-thirds of states and territories in the United States.”
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State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
NV	SB 129	1/29/2025	Jeff Stone (R)	Read first time; to committee (02/03/2025)	In Senate	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Alt. Pathways • Current law requires a regulatory body to adopt regulations providing for the issuance of a license by endorsement to certain individuals. This bill would amend this requirement to require the regulatory body to issue a license by endorsement without adopting regulations to any person who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Is a resident of Nevada; ○ Has held for at least 1 year a corresponding valid and unrestricted license in good standing to engage in the occupation or profession in a U.S. state; ○ Has satisfied the minimum educational, examination, and experience requirements for such license; ○ Has not voluntarily surrendered any license to engage in the occupation or profession while under investigation by the corresponding regulatory authority in the other jurisdiction. • Removes the requirement that the individual possess “qualifications that are substantially similar to the qualifications required for issuance of a license to engage in that occupation or profession in [Nevada].” 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove the amendment to current NRS 622.530(b) and keep the requirement that an applicant for licensure by endorsement “Possess[] qualifications that are substantially similar to the qualifications required for issuance of a license to engage in that occupation or profession in [Nevada].” • Add a new provision, “Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, if the occupational licensing rules of the board require applicants to hold a current and valid private certification, the board must require the applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section to hold that private certification before issuing a license under this section. Where a licensing law specifies a private certification or other 					

	<p>substantive qualifications as alternative eligibility standards for a license, an applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section must either hold that current and valid private certification or demonstrate qualifications at least equivalent to the alternative eligibility standards required in this state for practice of that lawful occupation.”</p>
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State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
NV	AB 264 *NEW* 	2/20/2025	Brittney Miller (D)	Notice of eligibility for exemption. (3/2/2025)	In Assembly	Oppose	High
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Returning Citizens • Requires a licensing agency that denies an application for a license based on the applicant’s moral character or criminal history to provide the applicant written notice explaining the basis for the decision within 10 days of the denial. • Allows the applicant the opportunity to file a petition in the district court after receiving notice of denial and requires the court to set a hearing on the petition upon receipt of the same. • Provides that the licensing agency has the burden of proof of establishing by clear and convincing evidence that the issuance of the license would post a direct, substantial, and unmitigable risk to the public health or safety based on the duties and responsibilities of the profession or occupation. • If the court determines that the licensing agency has met the burden of proof, the court must issue an order affirming the decision of the licensing agency. If, however, the court determine that the licensing agency has failed to meet the burden of proof, the court must issue an order requiring the licensing agency to issue the license to the applicant. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oppose. This is similar to a private right of action and the standard without reference to public welfare is too high. 					

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
NV	AB 321 *NEW*	2/27/2025	Jovan Jackson (D) Reuben D’Silva (D)	From printer. To committee. (2/28/2025)	In Assembly	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Returning Citizens • Permits every person convicted of a criminal offense to apply to the court to have the judgment of conviction set 					

	<p>aside and receive a certificate of second chance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides that, where a person is granted a certificate of second chance after conviction of a misdemeanor, gross misdemeanor, or certain other crimes after a requisite period of time has passed, that person may not be disqualified from obtaining a license from a regulatory body on the basis of that conviction. • Requires each regulatory body to recognize a certificate of second chance issued as removing any disqualification for a person with a criminal history from obtaining a license from the regulatory body.
<p>Comments and Proposed Changes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend Sec. 6 to read: “Each regulatory body shall recognize a certificate of second chance issued pursuant to section 3 of this act as removing any disqualifications for a person with a criminal history from obtaining a license from the regulatory body, unless the circumstances of the offense and the nature of the occupation would create an unreasonable risk to public safety, health, or welfare for an individual to practice the licensed profession.” • Add a safe harbor provision: “Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a private certification organization to grant or deny private certification to any individual, nor alter or impair any requirement in a licensure statute or regulation for an individual to hold current private certification as a condition of licensure or renewal of licensure.”

New York	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 8, 2025 – Jun. 16, 2025	n/a	Yes

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
NY	S 2717 *REPEAT*	1/22/2025	Robert G. Ort (R) Robert Rolison (R)	Referred to Veterans, Homeland Security and Military Affairs (1/22/2025)	In Senate	Amend	Medium
NY	A 5960 *REPEAT* *NEW*	2/25/2025	Brian Miller (R)	Referred to Economic Development (2/25/2025)	In Assembly	Amend	Medium

Bill Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Alt. Pathways • Note: This bill is a reintroduction of S 1273 / A 4569 – monitored on the 2024 watchlist – which failed when the legislative session ended. • Titled the “Military Spouse Act of 2023,” provides that notwithstanding any provision of the law to the contrary, any applicant who is the spouse of a member of the armed forces of the U.S., national guard, or reserves may submit satisfactory evidence of licensure, certification, or registration to practice an equivalent occupation issued by another U.S. jurisdiction in lieu of the submissions required for non-military spouses, provided that such license, certification, or certificate of registration was granted in compliance with standards which were, in the judgment of the secretary, not lower than that of New York. • Exempts military spouses engaged in the business of real estate to maintain a place of business within NY.
Comments and Proposed Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • “Satisfactory evidence of licensure ... in an equivalent occupation” may give room for New York to require that the license be in good standing, but it does not expressly include that requirement. The reach of this bill is limited to spouses of military service members, but currently it does not comport with many of the PCC’s principles. • Add a new provision, “Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, if the occupational licensing rules of the board require applicants to hold a current and valid private certification, the board must require the applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section to hold that private certification before issuing a license under this section. Where a licensing law specifies a private certification or other substantive qualifications as alternative eligibility standards for a license, an applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section must either hold that current and valid private certification or demonstrate qualifications at least equivalent to the alternative eligibility standards required in this state for practice of that lawful occupation.”

North Dakota	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 7, 2025 – May 2, 2025	Feb. 28, 2025	No

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
ND	SB 2395	1/27/2025	David Hogue (R)	Passed Senate (02/25/2025); Amendment adopted, placed on calendar (2/25/2025)	In Senate	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Alt. Pathways • Provides that, unless the state is part of an effective interstate compact, an executed license transfer, or reciprocity agreement with another state, a board shall issue a license to an out-of-state licensee applicant to practice in this state if, upon application to the board, the applicant: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Actively has used the license for two of the three years immediately preceding submitting an application under this section; 2) Provides or demonstrates competency and education in the profession or occupation through methods determined by the board; 3) Has not committed any act that constitutes grounds for refusal, suspension, or revocation of a license to practice that profession or occupation in this state unless the board determines, in its discretion, the act is not an impediment to the granting of a license to practice in this state; 4) Has not been disciplined in any jurisdiction in which the individual has held a license within the last ten years; 5) Is not under an active investigation by another licensing authority or law enforcement authority in a state, federal, or foreign jurisdiction; 6) Submits to a state and federal criminal background check, paid for by the applicant, if required by the board and the board has statutory authority to repeat the background check; and 7) Pays the fees established by the board. • Provides that a board may require an individual seeking licensure to pass an exam applicable to the licensed profession and that, if examination is required, the exam must be made available at least once per month. 					
Comments and Proposed		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a new provision, “Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, if the occupational licensing rules of the board require applicants to hold a current and valid private certification, the board must require the 					

Changes	applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section to hold that private certification before issuing a license under this section. Where a licensing law specifies a private certification or other substantive qualifications as alternative eligibility standards for a license, an applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section must either hold that current and valid private certification or demonstrate qualifications at least equivalent to the alternative eligibility standards required in this state for practice of that lawful occupation.”
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Oklahoma	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Feb. 3, 2025 - May 30, 2025		Yes

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
OK	SB 317 *REPEAT*	2/3/2025	Dusty Deever (R)	Second Reading referred to Business and Insurance (02/04/2025)	Prefiled	Amend	High
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Consumer Choice • Note: this bill is a reintroduction of SB 896 — monitored on the 2023 watchlist — which failed when the legislative session ended. • Defines “private certification” as “a nontransferable recognition by a private certifying organization that an individual meets the qualifications determined by the private certifying organization.” • Defines “private certifying organization” as “a nongovernmental organization that allows any individual to apply for private certification regardless of the individual’s race, creed, color, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or marital status.” • Defines “Participating private certifying organization” means “a private certifying organization that registers and otherwise meets the criteria specified in subsection C of Section 3 of this act.” • Defines “Privately certified” as “a designated title that an individual may use if the individual is certified by a participating private certifying organization.” • Permits a private certifying organization to voluntarily participate and register with the Secretary of state. Once registered, a participating private certifying organization is required to publish the following on a public website: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The scope of practice for each lawful occupation that the organization certifies, ○ The qualifications that an individual must possess to become certified by the private certifying organization, ○ Other factors the private certifying organization uses to certify individuals which may include consumer comments, rankings and other consumer-initiated elements, 					

- The names, business addresses and websites of all individuals privately certified by the organization, and
- The states in which the private certifying organization is registered.
- A participating private certifying organization must also:
 - Require qualifications related to the lawful occupation an individual is certified for;
 - Verify an individual’s qualifications before certification and periodically verify eligibility;
 - Require a privately certified individual to prominently display the private certification and make available materials about the qualifications and other factors required for the private certification;
 - Have at least 50 privately certified individuals in active practice in the U.S. after one year of applying for registration with the Secretary of State
- Permits a participating private certifying organization to require certificants to obtain and maintain a bond for liability related to the practice of the privately certified lawful occupation and to require certificants to pay initial and ongoing fees.
- Provides a right for certificants to engage in the lawful occupation they are certified in, regardless of other occupational regulations enacted by the State, and prohibits the State from prohibiting or imposing a penalty, fine, or fee on a certificant for engaging in a lawful occupation in compliance with the bill.
- Requires a certificant who is engaging in a lawful occupation that the State has enacted an occupational regulation for to display a sign stating:
 - The government licenses the service;
 - The individual is not licensed by the government;
 - The individual is privately certified by [the name of the private certifying organization]; and
 - The contact information of the private certification organization.
- Prohibits a certificant who is not licensed, registered, or certified by the government from using the term “licensed,” “certified” or “registered” to describe the individual’s credential or “any words, titles, abbreviations or letters that would induce a reasonably knowledgeable consumer of such services to believe the privately certified

Comments and Proposed Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill provides a more limited variant of “consumer choice” and “right to earn a living” bills. It sets up the state as, in effect, an alternative accreditor of private certification programs, and uses private certification as a pathway for individuals to avoid licensure provided that they disclose their lack of a license to consumers. This removes the state oversight and enforcement function from regulated professions and shifts it onto private certification organizations. Amend to delete Section 3 and Section 4 of the bill, in order to remove the consumer choice aspects of the bill. The bill opens the door to credential-purchasing organizations masquerading as private certification organizations, Amend definition of “Private Certifying Organization” to “a nongovernmental organization that issues credentials that are widely recognized in the field based on demonstrated qualifications relevant to performance of the occupation to which the certification pertains, including by the individual’s demonstration through examination or assessment that the individual has a specified level of knowledge, competency, or skill required to meet standards in the profession, and that allows any individual to apply for private certification.”
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State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
OK	SB 326	Prefiled	Dusty Reeves (R)	Second Reading referred to Revenue and Taxation Committee then to Appropriations Committee (02/04/2025)	In Senate	Support	N/A
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category: Miscellaneous Provides tax credit for “qualified fees” required to obtain and renew certain licenses or certifications. Defines “qualified fees” to include any fees or other charges established by rule or statute which are assessed by an “entity”: (1) with the statutory duty for administering an exam or conferring or renewing a license or certification; or (2) which provides continuing education courses required by state law in order to maintain an existing license or certification. An “entity” may include a third party that administers exams, provides continuing education, or provides services necessary to meet the statutory requirements for licensing, certification, or renewal. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The PCC will write a letter to support passage of this bill as it is similar to the Federal Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow’s Workforce Act. 					

South Carolina	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 14, 2025 – May 8, 2025	Apr. 10, 2025	Yes

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
SC	H 3193 *REPEAT*	1/14/2025	Jermaine Johnson (D)	Referred to Committee on Judiciary (1/14/2025)	In House	Amend	Medium
SC	H 3224 *REPEAT*	1/14/2025	Kambrell Garvin (D)	Referred to Committee on Judiciary (1/14/2025)	In House	Amend	Medium
SC	H 3272 *REPEAT*	1/14/2025	Todd Rutherford (D)	Scrivener's error corrected (2/5/2025)	In House	Amend	Medium
SC	H 3775 *REPEAT*	1/16/2025	Gilda Cobb-Hunter (D)	Referred to Committee on Labor, Commerce and Industry (1/16/2025)	In House	Amend	Medium

Bill Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Returning Citizens • Note: this bill is a reintroduction of HB 3331— monitored on the 2023 watchlist — which failed when the legislative session ended. • Titled the “Trump Criminal Background Records Check Ban Act” (H 3193) and the “Ban the Box Act” (H 3272). • Prohibits a person from being disqualified from public employment or from pursuing, practicing, or engaging in any occupation for which a license is required solely or in part because of a prior conviction of a crime, unless the crime directly relates to the position of employment sought or the occupation for which the license is sought. • Provides that the hiring or licensing authority shall consider the following to determine if a conviction directly relates to the position or occupation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ the nature and seriousness of the crime for which the individual was convicted; ○ the relationship of the crime or crimes to the purposes of regulating the position of public employment sought or the occupation for which the license is sought; and ○ the relationship of the crime to the ability, capacity, and fitness required to perform the duties and discharge the responsibilities of the position of employment or occupation. • If the conviction directly relates to the position or occupation, a person must not be disqualified if they can show competent evidence of sufficient rehabilitation and present fitness to perform the duties of the public employment
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	<p>sought or the occupation for which the license is sought, including but not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Evidence showing that at least one year has elapsed since release from any local, state, or federal correctional institution without subsequent conviction of a crime; and evidence showing compliance with all terms and conditions of probation or parole; or ○ A copy of the relevant Department of Corrections discharge order or other documents showing completion of probation or parole supervision. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In addition to such documentary evidence, the licensing authority must consider any evidence presented by the applicant regarding the nature of the crime; the circumstances related to the crime; the age of the person at the time the crime was committed; the length of time elapsed since the crime was committed; and any other evidence of present fitness, including letters of reference. ● Restricts the following criminal records from being used, distributed, or disseminated in connection with an application for a license: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Records of arrest not followed by a valid conviction; ○ Convictions which have been, pursuant to law, annulled or expunged; and ○ Misdemeanor convictions for which no jail sentence can be imposed. ● Requires that the licensing authority, upon disqualifying the individual from pursuing, practicing, or engaging in any occupation for which the license is required due solely or in part due to the individual’s prior conviction, issue to the applicant its determination in writing. ● Specifies that the provisions of the new section “must prevail over any other laws and rules which purport to govern the granting, denial, renewal, suspension, or revocation of a license or the initiation, suspension, or termination of public employment on the grounds of conviction of a crime. In deciding to grant, deny, revoke, suspend, or renew a license, or to deny, suspend, or terminate public employment for a lack of good moral character or the like, the hiring or licensing authority may consider evidence of conviction of a crime but only in the same manner and to the same effect as provided for in this section. Nothing in this section may be construed to otherwise effect relevant proceedings involving the granting, denial, renewal, suspension, or revocation of a license or the initiation, suspension, or termination of public employment.”
<p>Comments and Proposed Changes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Add to the list of factors in Section 41-1-35(D)(2) / 41-1-23(D)(2) that a licensing agency should consider when determining whether to deny a license a new subsection (d) “whether the applicant poses an unacceptable risk to the people with whom the applicant would interact in the conduct of the profession or occupation.” ● Add to Section 41-1-35(D)(1) / 41-1-23(D)(1): “A criminal conviction is ‘directly related’ to an occupation or

profession if the circumstances of the offense and the nature of the occupation would create an unreasonable risk to public safety, health, or welfare for an ex-offender to practice the licensed profession.”

- Add a safe harbor provision: **“Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a private certification organization to grant or deny private certification to any individual, nor alter or impair any requirement in a licensure statute or regulation for an individual to hold current private certification as a condition of licensure or renewal of licensure.”**

Texas	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 14 – Jun. 2, 2025	None	No

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
TX	SB 716	1/6/2025	Kevin Sparks (R)	Co-author authorized (2/11/2025)	In Senate	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Alt. Pathways • Provides that a covered licensing authority shall issue a license to an applicant who pays the required fees and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Holds a current license in good standing in another state with a similar scope of practice, as determined by the licensing authority; ○ Has held the license for at least one year; ○ Was required to pass an examination or meet other experience, education, or training requirements to obtain the license; ○ Does not have a disqualifying criminal history as determined by the licensing authority; ○ Has not been subject to the revocation or surrender of the license in any state due to unprofessional conduct or while under investigation for unprofessional conduct in the performance of work under the license; ○ Is not currently subject to ongoing discipline by a regulatory agency in connection with the applicant's license, including a probated suspension, limitation on scope of practice, or program of additional monitoring; and ○ Is not currently the subject of a complaint or investigation in the other state for an act that constitutes unprofessional conduct or an offense. • Provides that an applicant for a license under this section may be required to pass a jurisprudence examination specific to the relevant laws of this state applicable to the activities for which the license is sought if a similar examination is required to obtain the license for all other applicants. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a new provision, “Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, if the occupational licensing rules of the board require applicants to hold a current and valid private certification, the board must require the applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section to hold that private certification before issuing a license under this section. Where a licensing law specifies a private certification or other 					

	<p>substantive qualifications as alternative eligibility standards for a license, an applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section must either hold that current and valid private certification or demonstrate qualifications at least equivalent to the alternative eligibility standards required in this state for practice of that lawful occupation.”</p>
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State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
TX	HB 794 *REPEAT*	11/12/2024	Brian Harrison (R)	H Filed (11/12/2024)	In House	Amend	High

Bill Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Review and Repeal • Note: this bill is a reintroduction of HB 3714— monitored on the 2023 watchlist — which failed when the legislative session ended. • Requires each licensing authority review each regulation applicable to a license it issues not later than September 1, 2026. • Requires the licensing authority to repeal or modify (or recommend that the legislature repeal or modify) occupational regulations that are deemed not demonstrably necessary and carefully tailored to fulfill legitimate public health, safety, and welfare objectives. • Defines “welfare” as an action to protect the public against fraud or harm. The term does not include an action to protect an existing public or private entity against competition.” • Allows a person to petition a licensing authority to repeal or modify an occupational regulation applicable to a license if it violates the above-stated standard and requires the licensing authority to either repeal, modify, or provide reasons that the regulation does not violate the standard. • Permits a person to bring an action for an injunction against the enforcement of an occupational regulation in a district court. Provides that a person is entitled to relief from an occupational regulation if the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the occupational regulation on its face or in its effect burdens the entry into a profession and occupation and <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ (1) the licensing authority is unable to prove by a preponderance of evidence that the regulation is not demonstrably necessary and carefully tailored to fulfill legitimate public health, safety, or welfare objectives; or ○ (2) if the regulation is necessary to the legitimate public health, safety, or welfare objectives as demonstrated under Subdivision (1), the objective can be effectively served by using a less restrictive regulation that is less burdensome to economic opportunity.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Requires the court to award attorney’s fees and costs to a plaintiff who prevails under the section.
Comments and Proposed Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This bill is a more direct threat to occupational licensing. Unlike other bills calling for a commission or a report, this bill mandates that agencies repeal regulations that do not meet the designated evidentiary standards. It also allows a private cause of action for individuals to challenge occupational licensing regulations. The bill invites expensive litigation over regulations, accordingly, the PCC opposes passage of the private cause of action provisions of the bill, even if amended to add safe harbors to protect both regulatory recognition of private certifications and statutory prohibitions on deceptive trade practices. Accordingly, strike Section 2.052.

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
TX	HB 710 *REPEAT*	11/12/2024	Brian Harrison (R)	H Filed (11/12/2024)	In House	Amend	High
Bill Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category: Alt. Pathways Note: this bill is a reintroduction of HB 3353 — monitored on the 2023 watchlist — which failed when the legislative session ended. Requires a board to issue an occupational license or government certification to an individual who: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds a current and valid occupation license or government certification in another state in a lawful occupation with a similar scope of practice, as determined by the board; Has held the occupational license or government certification in another state for at least one year; Was required by a board in another state to pass an examination or to meet education, training, or experience standards; Is in good standing with the board in the other state; Does not have a disqualifying criminal record as determined by the board in Texas; Has not had an occupation license or government certification revoked by the board of another state due to negligence or intentional misconduct related to the individuals work in the occupation; 						

- Did not surrender an occupation license or government certification in another state due to negligence or intentional misconduct related to the individual's work in the occupation;
- Does not have a complaint, allegation, or investigation pending before a board in another state that related to unprofessional conduct or an alleged crime; and
- Pays all applicable fees in Texas.
- Requires a board to issue an occupation license or government certification based on work experience if an individual:
 - Worked in a state that does not require an occupational license or government certification to engage in a lawful occupation but an occupation license or government certification is required in Texas to engage in a lawful occupation with a similar scope of practice, as determined by the board;
 - Worked for at least three years in the lawful occupation;
 - Does not have a disqualifying criminal record as determined by the board in Texas;
 - Has not had an occupation license or government certification revoked by the board of another state due to negligence or intentional misconduct related to the individual's work in the occupation;
 - Did not surrender an occupation license or government certification in another state due to negligence or intentional misconduct related to the individual's work in the occupation;
 - Does not have a complaint, allegation, or investigation pending before a board in another state that related to unprofessional conduct or an alleged crime; and
 - Pays all applicable fees in Texas.
- Provides that a board may require an individual to pass an examination specific to relevant state laws that regulate the occupation.
- Creates an appeals process.
- Includes the safe harbor, this chapter may not be construed to prevent this state from recognizing occupational credentials issued by a private certification organization, foreign province, foreign country, international organization, or other entity.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Includes the safe harbor this chapter may not be construed to require a private certification organization to grant or deny private certification to an individual.
Comments and Proposed Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add a new provision, “Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, if the occupational licensing rules of the board require applicants to hold a current and valid private certification, the board must require the applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section to hold that private certification before issuing a license under this section. Where a licensing law specifies a private certification or other substantive qualifications as alternative eligibility standards for a license, an applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section must either hold that current and valid private certification or demonstrate qualifications at least equivalent to the alternative eligibility standards required in this state for practice of that lawful occupation.”


State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
TX	SB 100 *REPEAT*	11/12/2024	Bob Hall (R)	Co-author authorized (3/4/2025)	In Senate	Amend	High
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category: Alt. Pathways Note: this bill is a reintroduction of SB 1200— monitored on the 2023 watchlist — which failed when the legislative session ended. Would require the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation to issue a license to an applicant who pays any required fees and: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Holds a current license in good standing in another state with a similar scope of practice, as determined by the commission; Has held the license for at least one year Was required to pass an examination or meet other experience, education, or training requirements to obtain the license; Does not have a disqualifying criminal history as determined by the commission; Has not been subject to the revocation or surrender of the license in any state due to negligence or intentional misconduct; and Is not currently the subject of a complaint or investigation. Provides that, if the applicant worked in a jurisdiction does not require a license to engage in the activity, the department shall consider the work experience of the applicant as sufficient if the applicant has engaged in the activity for at least three years; does not have any disqualifying criminal history; and is not currently the subject of a complaint or investigation. 					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides that an applicant for a license may be required to pass an exam relevant to the laws of the state.
Comments and Proposed Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Add a new provision, “Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, if the occupational licensing rules of the board require applicants to hold a current and valid private certification, the board must require the applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section to hold that private certification before issuing a license under this section. Where a licensing law specifies a private certification or other substantive qualifications as alternative eligibility standards for a license, an applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section must either hold that current and valid private certification or demonstrate qualifications at least equivalent to the alternative eligibility standards required in this state for practice of that lawful occupation.”

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
TX	HB 2498 *REPEAT*	2/5/2025	Jeff Leach (R)	Filed (02/05/2025)	In House	Monitor	Low
TX	SB 1053 *REPEAT*	2/3/2025	Chuy Hinojosa (D)	Read first time; referred to Business and Commerce (02/24/2025)	In Senate	Monitor	Low

Bill Summary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category: Returning Citizens Note: this bill is a reintroduction of HB 1747 and SB 734— monitored on the 2023 watchlist — which failed when the legislative session ended. Expands the circumstances under which a licensing authority may suspend or revoke a license, disqualify a person from receiving a license, or deny a person the opportunity to take a licensing exam to include circumstances in which the person applied for the license or applied to take the licensing exam: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Within five years of conviction or within five years of release from confinement, whichever is later; Beyond the five-year waiting period if the person has been convicted of another offense committed; or At any time if the offense of which the person was convicted requires registration as a sex offender, involves family violence, is punishable as a felony of the second degree, or is included in any of the additional enumerated categories Provides that a licensing authority may not determine that a criminal conviction “directly relates” to the duties and responsibilities of a licensed occupation for purposes of taking an adverse action unless the licensing authority finds by a preponderance of the evidence that the consideration of the listed factors supports that determination. Adds that in a hearing on the administrative appeal or judicial review of a licensing authority’s decision to take an adverse action, the licensing authority has the burden of proving by a preponderance of the evidence that (1) the
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	offense for which the person was convicted is grounds for the authority to take the action; and (2) consideration of the required factors supports the authority's decision to take the action.
Comments and Proposed Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> None of the proposed changes to existing law warrant intervention at this time, but the PCC will monitor the bill in case it becomes a vehicle for more extensive occupational licensure reform.

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
TX	HB 2690 	2/11/2025	Brian Harrison (R)	Filed (02/11/2025)	In House	Oppose	High
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category: Consumer Choice Provides that a governmental agency or public official may not adopt or enforce a law or other measure that imposes a burden on an individual's right to earn a living unless the agency or official demonstrates that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) The law or measure is necessary to protect public health, safety, or welfare; (2) The law or measure is the least restrictive means of furthering that interest; (3) Alternative means, including voluntary certification or less restrictive regulatory measures, are not able to achieve that interest without unnecessarily restricting entry into the regulated business, profession, occupation, or trade. Provides that a person aggrieved by a violation or threatened violation may bring an action against the agency or official, and has standing regardless of whether the person applied for, obtained, or was denied the occupational license or certification if the person: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (1) Intends to engage in the business, profession, occupation, or trade that is the subject of the violation that is the basis for the action; and (2) Is hindered from engaging in the business, profession, occupation, or trade by the violation that is the basis for the action. Provides that the aggrieved person may recover equitable relief, nominal damages, reasonable attorney's fees, court costs, and other reasonable expenses in bringing the action. Provides that a person whose free exercise of the right to earn a living has been burdened may assert that violation as a defense in a judicial or administrative proceeding enforcing the law or measure that is the basis of the violation regardless of whether the proceeding is brought in the name of the state or by any other person. Waives governmental agencies' sovereign and governmental immunity to suit and from liability created under the 					

	section.
Comments and Proposed Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wholly oppose.

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
TX	SB 1628 *NEW*	2/25/2025	Borris Miles (D)	Filed; Received by the Senate (2/25/2025)	In Senate	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Returning Citizens • Prohibits licensing agencies from inquiring into or considering an applicant’s criminal history record information until after the state agency has determined that the applicant is otherwise qualified for the license. • Prohibits an application for a license from including a question regarding an applicant’s criminal history. • Restricts a licensing agency from suspending or revoking a license, disqualifying a person from receiving a license, or denying the opportunity to take a licensing exam because the person has been convicted of an offense, unless the offense: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Directly relates to the duties and responsibilities of the licensed occupation; or ○ By law disqualifies the person from obtaining employment in the occupation for which the license is required. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a definition for “directly relates” to Section 53.021(a)(1) to read: “directly relates to the duties and responsibilities of the licensed occupation meaning the circumstances of the offense and the nature of the occupation would create an unreasonable risk to public safety, health, or welfare for an ex-offender to practice the licensed profession; or” • Add an additional exception to Section 53.021(a) to read: “poses an unacceptable risk to the people with whom the applicant would interact in the conduct of the profession or occupation.” • Add a safe harbor provision: “Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a private certification organization to grant or deny private certification to any individual, nor alter or impair any requirement in a licensure statute or regulation for an individual to hold current private certification as a condition of licensure or renewal of licensure.” 					

Utah	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 21 – Mar. 7, 2025	Mar. 4, 2025	No

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
UT	HB 474 *REPEAT*	2/11/2025	Ryan Wilcox (R) Daniel McCay (R)	Passed House (2/27/2025); Senate/ placed on 2nd Reading Calendar (3/4/2025)	In Senate	Oppose	High
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Review and Repeal • Note: this bill is similar to HB 508 — monitored on the 2024 watchlist — which failed when the legislative session ended. • Utah currently has a process for the Office of Professional Licensure Review to review occupational regulations and consider a list of criteria. • This bill would amend current law to require the Office to “articulate the harm with specificity” a regulation is necessary to address. “Harm” is defined as “the present, recognizable, and significant harm to the health, safety, or financial welfare of the public.” • It would also create a process for a person to petition the Office to repeal or modify an occupational regulation within its jurisdiction and requires the Office, after receiving a petition, to either repeal the occupational regulation, modify it to address the harm with less burdensome alternative regulations or other means, or state the basis on which the regulation addresses the harm. • Creates a private right of action for an individual who disagrees with the action taken by the Office to challenge the regulation and provides that the court shall rule in favor of the plaintiff if it finds that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The challenged occupational regulation is not necessary to address a present, recognizable, and significant harm to the health, safety, or financial welfare of the public; or ○ The present, recognizable, and significant harm to the health, safety, or financial welfare of the public could be addressed by a less burdensome method than the challenged occupational regulation. • Provides that the court must enjoin further enforcement of the occupational regulation and award attorney’s fees and costs to a prevailing plaintiff. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oppose Sections 13-1b-302(3) and 13-1b-401. 					

Virginia	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 10, 2024 – Feb. 22, 2025	Feb. 4, 2025	No

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
VA	SB 826 *REPEAT*	1/8/2025	Mamie Locke (D)	Passed House (2/18/2025) Fiscal Impact Statement from Department of Planning and Budget (SB826) (2/24/2025)	Passed House	Amend	High
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Returning Citizens • Note: this bill is a reintroduction of SB 80— monitored on the 2024 watchlist — which failed when the governor vetoed it a version of it with the problematic provisions removed. Such provisions are back in this new version. • Current law provides that a person shall not be refused a license, certificate, or registration to practice in any regulated occupation or profession solely because of a criminal conviction, unless the criminal conviction directly relates to the occupation or profession for which the license, certificate, or registration is sought. Current law also provides, however, that the regulatory board has the authority to refuse a license, certificate, or registration if it finds that the applicant is “unfit or unsuited to engage in such occupation or profession.” • The bill strikes the regulatory board’s authority to refuse to grant a license, certificate, or registration. • The bill also adds the requirement to notify the applicant in writing of the offenses or offenses that contributed to the denial, how the criminal history relates to the occupation, and how the regulatory board or department weighed the rehabilitation factors when making its decision. • The bill would also add a new section to create a binding predetermination process for licensing eligibility. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strike the amendment to Section 54.1-204(A). • Add a definition of “directly relates” to Section 54.1-204(A): “A criminal conviction ‘directly relates’ to an occupation or profession if the circumstances of the offense and the nature of the profession or occupation would create an unreasonable risk to public safety, health, or welfare for an individual to practice the licensed profession, or if the underlying conduct resulting in the conviction would be grounds for disciplinary action against a current licensee.” • Add to the list of factors an agency or administrator must consider in Section 54.1-204(B), a new factor number (10): “Whether the circumstances of the offense and the nature of the occupation would create an 					

	unreasonable risk to public safety, health, or welfare for an individual to practice the licensed profession or occupation.”
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West Virginia	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Feb. 12 – Apr. 12, 2025	Apr. 2, 2025	Yes

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
WV	SB 263 *REPEAT*	2/12/2025	Laura Wakim Chapman (R)	Introduced; to Workforce (2/12/2025)	In Senate	Amend	High
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Returning Citizens • Note: this bill is similar to SB 493— monitored on the 2024 watchlist — which failed when the legislative session ended. • Current law provides that an applicant may not be disqualified from initial licensure due to a prior criminal conviction unless the crime “bears a rational nexus” to the activity requiring licensure. • SB 263 revises current law to provide that an applicant can only be disqualified from initial licensure if the prior criminal conviction “directly and specifically” relates to the duties and responsibilities of the profession or occupation and “granting the licensure would pose a direct and substantial risk to the public because the applicant has not been rehabilitated.” • Current law requires the commissioner, in making this determination, to consider any evidence of rehabilitation or treatment undertaken by the individual. SB 263 provides examples of such considerations, including: (i) the age of the individual; (ii) the completion of the criminal offense; (iii) a certificate of rehabilitation or good conduct; (iv) completion of, or active participation in rehabilitative drug or alcohol treatment; (v) testimonials and recommendations, which may include a progress report; (vi) education and training; (vii) employment history and aspirations; (viii) the individual’s current family responsibilities; (ix) whether the individual will be bonded in the occupation; and (x) other evidence of rehabilitation the individual submits the authority. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amend Section 21-1-6 to add a definition of “directly and specifically relates”: “The commissioner may not disqualify an applicant from initial licensure, as required in this chapter, because of a prior criminal conviction that remains unreversed unless that conviction is for a crime that directly and specifically relates to the activity requiring licensure. A criminal conviction ‘directly and specifically relates’ to the activity requiring licensure if the circumstances of the offense and the nature of the profession or occupation would create an unreasonable risk to public safety, health, or welfare for an individual to practice the licensed profession, or if the underlying conduct resulting in the conviction would be grounds for disciplinary action against a current licensee.” 					

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add to the list of factors an agency or administrator must consider in Section 21-1-6(a)(4) and Section 30-1-24(b)(1) a new factor: “Whether the circumstances of the offense and the nature of the occupation would create an unreasonable risk to public safety, health, or welfare for an individual to practice the licensed profession or occupation.” • Add a safe harbor provision to Chapter 21 and Chapter 30: “Nothing in this section shall be construed to require a private certification organization to grant or deny private certification to any individual, nor alter or impair any requirement in a licensure statute or regulation for an individual to hold current private certification as a condition of licensure or renewal of licensure.” • Amend Section 30-1-24(a) to add a definition of “directly and specifically relates”: “A criminal conviction ‘directly and specifically relates’ to the duties and responsibilities of the profession or occupation requiring licensure if the circumstances of the offense and the nature of the profession or occupation would create an unreasonable risk to public safety, health, or welfare for an individual to practice the licensed profession, or if the underlying conduct resulting in the conviction would be grounds for disciplinary action against a current licensee.” • Revise Section 30-1-24(b)(1) as follows: “Boards subject to the requirements of this section may not disqualify an applicant from initial licensure to engage in a profession or occupation because of a prior criminal conviction that remains unreversed unless that conviction is for a crime that directly and specifically relates to the duties and responsibilities of the profession or occupation requiring licensure such that granting the applicant licensure would pose a direct and substantial an unreasonable risk to the public safety, health, or welfare because the applicant has not been rehabilitated.
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State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
WV	HB 2001 *NEW*	2/18/2025	Roger Hanshaw (R)	Filed for introduction; Introduced in the House; To House Government Organization (2/18/2025)	In House	Amend	Medium
WV	SB 458 *NEW*	2/13/2025	Randy Smith (R) Mike Woelfel (D)	Filed for introduction; Introduced in the Senate; To Senate Government Organization (2/13/2025)	In Senate	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Alt. Pathways • Titled the “Universal Professional and Occupational Licensing Act of 2025.” 					

- Requires a board to issue an occupational or professional license, registration, or certificate without examination to a person who:
 - Establishes residency in West Virginia; or
 - Is married to an active-duty member of the armed forces of the United States and has accompanied the member to an official permanent change of station to a military installation in West Virginia.
- Provides that a person in either situation above must meet the following criteria:
 - The person is currently licensed, registered, or certified in at least one other state in the discipline applied for and at the same practice level determined by the board of examination or registration;
 - The person's license, registration, or certification is in good standing in all states in which the person holds a license, registration, or certification;
 - The person has been licensed, registered, or certified by another state for at least one year
 - The person was licensed, registered, or certified by another state where there were minimum education requirements and, if applicable, work experience and clinical supervision requirements in effect and the other state verifies that the person met those requirements in order to be licensed, registered, or certified in that state;
 - The person previously passed an examination required for the license, registration, or certification if required by the other state;
 - The person has not had a license, registration, or certificate revoked or has not voluntarily surrendered a license, registration, or certificate in any other state or country while under investigation for unprofessional conduct;
 - The person has not had any other form of discipline imposed by any other regulating entity
 - *Provided*, if another state's regulating entity has taken disciplinary action against the person, a board of examination or registration in West Virginia is permitted to issue the person a license, registration, or certificate if it determines the cause of action in the other state was corrected and the matter fully resolved.
 - If the matter has not been resolved in the other state, the board of examination or registration in

	<p style="text-align: center;">this state cannot issue or deny a license until the matter is resolved;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The person pays all applicable fees in this state; and ○ The person does not have a disqualifying criminal history as determined by the board of examination or registration in this state. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Permits a board of examination or registration to require an applicant to take and pass an examination specific to West Virginia. ● Provides that a board of examination or registration is not prevented from entering into a reciprocity agreement with another state or jurisdiction for persons married to active-duty members of the armed forces of the United States. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ However, the agreement may not allow out-of-state licensees or certificate holders to obtain a license or certificate by reciprocity in West Virginia if the applicant has not met standards that are substantially equivalent to or greater than the standards required in this state as determined by the regulating entity on a case-by-case basis.
<p>Comments and Proposed Changes</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Add a new provision, “Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, if the occupational licensing rules of the board require applicants to hold a current and valid private certification, the board must require the applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section to hold that private certification before issuing a license under this section. Where a licensing law specifies a private certification or other substantive qualifications as alternative eligibility standards for a license, an applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section must either hold that current and valid private certification or demonstrate qualifications at least equivalent to the alternative eligibility standards required in this state for practice of that lawful occupation.”

Wyoming	Session Dates	Crossover Deadline	Carryover to 2026
	Jan. 14, 2025 – Mar. 7, 2025	Feb. 12, 2025	No

State	Bill #	Introduced	Primary Sponsor(s)	Last Action	Status	Position	Priority
WY	SF 119	1/15/2025	Brian Bonder (R)	Governor Signed SEA No. 0041 (2/28/2025)	In House	Amend	Medium
Bill Summary		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Category: Alt. Pathways • Current law provides a process for military spouses to be issued expedited licenses. This bill expands the process to include military service members themselves who are released within two years of applying for a license. • Amends the definition of “military service member” to include “a person released from military service within two (2) years of applying for licensure, certification or registration pursuant to this section and whose service was characterized upon release as honorable.” • Specifies that an expedited license shall be issued within 30 days of receiving a completed application that would allow the military service member or military spouse to lawfully practice a profession or occupation requiring licensure in this state if the applicant: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Holds a relevant, active occupational or professional license in good standing from another state and provides relevant proof of military service or being a military spouse; ○ Provides a copy of military orders for military service in the state and submits to the authority of the licensing authority in Wyoming for purposes of standards of practice, discipline and fulfillment of any continuing education requirements. • Permits a licensing board to issue a temporary practice permit to a military service member or military spouse who meets the above requirements who has applied for professional or occupational licensure. • Permits a military service member or military spouse to practice under the temporary permit for up to 3 years. 					
Comments and Proposed Changes		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Add a new provision, “Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, if the occupational licensing rules of the board require applicants to hold a current and valid private certification, the board must require the applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section to hold that private certification before issuing a license under this section. Where a licensing law specifies a private certification or other substantive qualifications as alternative eligibility standards for a license, an applicant who seeks a license under the provisions of this section must either hold that current and valid private certification or demonstrate qualifications at least equivalent to the alternative eligibility standards required in this state for practice of that lawful occupation.” 					

