

Idaho Legislative Services Office October 2, 2023 Occupational Licensing Interim Committee History

Overview

This committee evolved from an interim study committee regarding occupational and professional licensing issues to a statutory committee that also included sunrise and sunset review of occupational groups. The statutory committee may also study and review occupational licensing and certification laws in general.

2018

In 2018, the committee held three meetings. The meetings focused broadly on information collected pursuant to Executive Order No. 2017-06. That Executive Order led to a compilation of information known as the "Licensing Freedom Act Report and Observations" dated June 22, 2018.

On October 19, 2018, the Committee voted to accept an invitation for Idaho to join the multistate Occupational Licensing Policy Learning Consortium, an effort to study and alleviate issues caused by unnecessary or overbroad occupational licensure throughout the United States.

The committee recommended further study of occupational licensing issues and the consideration of certain legislation during the upcoming 2019 session.

<u>2019</u>

During the 2019 legislative session, a new chapter of code entitled the <u>Occupational Licensing Reform Act</u> was enacted.

The committee met five times during the 2019 interim and proposed legislation to address Sunrise Review, Universal Licensure, Inquiries Regarding the Impact of Criminal Background, and Evaluation of Criminal Convictions as well as separate legislation to remove vague and archaic language regarding character (e.g., "moral turpitude") from Idaho Code sections regarding fitness for occupations.

2020

During the 2020 legislative session, the legislation recommended by the 2019 committee resulted in additions to the <u>Occupational Licensing Reform Act</u>.

Subsequently, the committee met five times during the interim and recommended further additions to the Occupational Licensing Reform Act. Those additions provided for licensure by endorsement for military members, military spouses, and veterans; sunset review; and certain apprenticeship programs.

2021

The committee, formerly established by resolution, shifted to its new statutory charge under <u>section 67-9408</u>, <u>Idaho Code</u>: conducting sunrise reviews, if any. The committee was also authorized to study and review occupational licensing and certification laws in general. However, the committee did not receive any applications for sunrise review in 2021 and did not hold any meetings.



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2022

In 2022, as in the prior year, the committee did not receive any sunrise review applications. Section 67-9408, Idaho Code, provided for the committee to conduct sunset reviews of each licensing authority on a rotating basis. Although the committee did not meet, LSO staff researched Idaho Code to determine how many licensing authorities may exist under Idaho Code. That research is summarized in the handout containing a chart entitled "Occupations Regulated Under Idaho Code."

2023

During the legislative session, SB 1109 amended section 67-9408, Idaho Code, to provide greater flexibility to the committee to determine the sunset review process, more time to complete each eventual cycle of sunset reviews, and to require licensing authorities under review to submit information to the committee to facilitate such reviews.