

**FINAL
FISCAL NOTE**

Drafting Number: LLS 12-0436
Prime Sponsor(s): Rep. Beezley
 Sen. Jahn

Date: May 30, 2012
Bill Status: Postponed Indefinitely
Fiscal Analyst: Josh Abram (303-866-3561)

TITLE: CONCERNING THE RECOGNITION OF PROFESSIONALS IN GOOD STANDING FROM OTHER STATES TO PRACTICE IN COLORADO.

Fiscal Impact Summary	FY 2012-2013	FY 2013-2014
State Revenue Cash Funds Division of Registrations Cash Fund		
State Expenditures Cash Funds Division of Registrations Cash Fund		
FTE Position Change		
Effective Date: The bill was postponed indefinitely by the Senate Health and Human Services Committee on March 15, 2012.		
Appropriation Summary for FY 2012-2013: None required.		
Local Government Impact: None.		

Summary of Legislation

This bill allows a person who holds a valid professional license, registration, or certification in another state to practice his or her profession in Colorado for up to nine months before having to meet the state's authorizing requirements, providing the person:

- is not disqualified for some other reason;
- consents to be subject to the jurisdiction and disciplinary authority of the Division of Registrations (division) in the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA);
- does not exceed the scope of practice authorized by Colorado law, or the laws of the state that issued the original credential;
- satisfies all prior and continuing education requirements within one year of application for a Colorado credential;
- discloses his or her pending Colorado status to all clients;
- resides in Colorado permanently, or intends to do so; and
- applies for an active Colorado license, registration, or certification prior to beginning practice.

The bill does not apply to optometrists, physicians, or physician assistants with credentials to practice from another state.

Background

The Division of Registrations regulates 49 professions, occupations, and businesses in the state. Many of the boards within the division have reciprocity agreements with other states that allow a license in another state to qualify for licensure in Colorado. Each year, the division receives approximately 8,000 applications for licensing, registration, or certification based on active credentials in other states.

State Revenue

This bill is not anticipated to increase the number of applicants for licenses, registrations, or certifications in the division. Professionals with proper authority from other states must make the regular application for professional practice in Colorado prior to starting work, and pay the appropriate fee. This bill is not anticipated to increase the total number of applications, or the total amount of fee revenue collected by the division.

State Expenditures

In FY 2012-13, this bill will increase expenditures in the DORA. DORA must make modifications to the licensing and records management systems in the division to properly track the immediate reciprocity for out-of-state professionals with valid regulatory authorization. The DORA has an internal licensing system and modifications can be made within existing appropriations.

The Department of Law will also provide necessary legal assistance to the DORA to modify rules, and to clarify any inconsistencies with existing agency rules regarding application review, endorsement, and reciprocity. Legal services are provided as requested by the client agency, in this case the DORA; however, the DORA has not estimated the need for increased legal services, and no appropriation for these services is currently required. If the need arises, the DORA will seek additional spending authority via the annual budget setting process.

Departments Contacted

Law

Regulatory Agencies

Revenue