Washington State House of Representatives Office of Program Research

BILL ANALYSIS

Business & Financial Services Committee

HB 1052

Brief Description: Repealing the requirement that credentialing authorities suspend a person's occupational credential for nonpayment or default of certain student loans.

Sponsors: Representatives Sawyer, Appleton, Bergquist and Macri.

Brief Summary of Bill

• Repeals the requirement that various state credentialing authorities suspend a person's occupational credential if the person is certified by a lending agency and reported to the state credentialing authority for nonpayment or default on a federally or stateguaranteed education loan or service-conditional scholarship.

Hearing Date: 1/17/17

Staff: Peter Clodfelter (786-7127).

Background:

The state, through the Department of Licensing, the Department of Health, other state agencies, and numerous state boards and other state-created entities, issues credentials like licenses, certifications, and registrations to people and business entities in numerous occupations. A 1996 law added a requirement to various occupations' regulatory schemes to require the state credentialing authority to suspend a person's occupational credential if the person is certified by a lending agency and reported to the state credentialing authority for nonpayment or default on a federally or state-guaranteed education loan or service-conditional scholarship.

The following occupations' regulatory schemes contain this provision:

- accountants;
- architects;
- assisted living facilities;
- attorneys (law provides that the Washington State Supreme Court may adopt such a provision by rule);

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- auctioneers;
- bail bond agents;
- birthing centers;
- boxing, martial arts, or wrestling event promotors, participants, and related occupations in the industry;
- contractors;
- cosmetologists, hair designers, barbers, manicurists, and estheticians;
- court reporters;
- embalmers and funeral directors;
- engineers and land surveyors;
- escrow agents;
- fire sprinkler system contractors;
- landscape architects;
- numerous health-related professions;
- plumbers;
- poison information centers;
- private investigators;
- process servers;
- real estate appraisers;
- real estate brokers and managing brokers;
- security guards;
- teachers and other education-related occupations; and
- water well construction-related occupations.

Summary of Bill:

The requirement that various state credentialing authorities suspend a person's occupational credential if the person is certified by a lending agency and reported to the state credentialing authority for nonpayment or default on a federally or state-guaranteed education loan or service-conditional scholarship is repealed.

The requirement is repealed from the following occupations' regulatory schemes:

- accountants:
- architects;
- assisted living facilities;
- attorneys (law provides that the Washington State Supreme Court may adopt such a provision by rule);
- auctioneers;
- bail bond agents:
- birthing centers;
- boxing, martial arts, or wrestling event promotors, participants, and related occupations in the industry;
- contractors;
- cosmetologists, hair designers, barbers, manicurists, and estheticians;
- court reporters;
- embalmers and funeral directors;
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- real estate appraisers;
- real estate brokers and managing brokers;
- security guards;
- teachers and other education-related occupations; and
- water well construction-related occupations.

Appropriation: None.

Fiscal Note: Available.

Effective Date: The bill takes effect 90 days after adjournment of the session in which the bill is passed.