HOUSE BILL 1574

State of Washington 60th Legislature 2007 Regular Session

By Representatives Wood, Conway, Hudgins, Condotta, Moeller and Kenney; by request of Department of Licensing

Read first time 01/23/2007. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

ACT Relating to the uniform regulation of business and 1 AN 2 professions; amending RCW 18.140.160, 18.185.110, 18.185.120, 19.16.410, 18.220.040, 18.220.130, 18.220.050, 18.165.170, 18.170.180, 3 18.235.005, 18.235.010, 18.235.020, 18.235.040, 18.235.050, 18.235.080, 4 5 18.235.090, 18.235.100, 18.235.110, 18.235.130, 18.235.150, and 18.235.210; and repealing RCW 18.140.175, 18.85.343, 18.220.140, 6 7 18.220.150, 18.220.170, and 18.220.180.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

9 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.140.160 and 2005 c 339 s 14 are each amended to 10 read as follows:

In addition to the unprofessional conduct described in RCW 12 18.235.130, the director may take disciplinary action for the following 13 conduct, acts, or conditions:

14 (1) Failing to meet the minimum qualifications for state 15 certification, licensure, or registration established by or pursuant to 16 this chapter;

(2) Paying money other than the fees provided for by this chapter
to any employee of the director or the commission to procure state
certification, licensure, or registration under this chapter;

(3) Continuing to act as a state-certified real estate appraiser,
 state-licensed real estate appraiser, or state-registered appraiser
 trainee when his or her certificate, license, or registration is on an
 expired status;

5 (4) Violating any provision of this chapter or any lawful rule made
6 by the director pursuant thereto;

7 (5) Issuing an appraisal report on any real property in which the 8 appraiser has an interest unless his or her interest is clearly stated 9 in the appraisal report; ((and))

10 (6) Being affiliated as an employer, independent contractor, or 11 supervisory appraiser of a state-certified real estate appraiser, 12 state-licensed real estate appraiser, or state-registered appraiser 13 trainee whose certification, license, or registration is currently in 14 a suspended or revoked status<u>;</u>

15 (7) Failure or refusal without good cause to exercise reasonable 16 diligence in performing an appraisal practice under this chapter, 17 including preparing an oral or written report to communicate 18 information concerning an appraisal practice; and

(8) Negligence or incompetence in performing an appraisal practice
 under this chapter, including preparing an oral or written report to
 communicate information concerning an appraisal practice.

22 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.185.110 and 2004 c 186 s 9 are each amended to read 23 as follows:

In addition to the unprofessional conduct described in RCW 18.235.130, the following conduct, acts, or conditions constitute unprofessional conduct:

(1) Violating any of the provisions of this chapter or the rulesadopted under this chapter;

29 (2) Failing to meet the qualifications set forth in RCW 18.185.020
30 ((and)), 18.185.030, and 18.185.250;

(3) Knowingly committing, or being a party to, any material fraud, misrepresentation, concealment, conspiracy, collusion, trick, scheme, or device whereby any other person lawfully relies upon the word, representation, or conduct of the licensee. However, this subsection (3) does not prevent a bail bond recovery agent from using any pretext to locate or apprehend a fugitive criminal defendant or gain any information regarding the fugitive;

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(4) Assigning or transferring any license issued pursuant to the
 provisions of this chapter, except as provided in RCW 18.185.030 or
 <u>18.185.250</u>;

(5) Conversion of any money or contract, deed, note, mortgage, or 4 other evidence of title, to his or her own use or to the use of his or 5 her principal or of any other person, when delivered to him or her in 6 7 trust or on condition, in violation of the trust or before the happening of the condition; and failure to return any money or 8 contract, deed, note, mortgage, or other evidence of title within 9 10 thirty days after the owner is entitled to possession, and makes demand for possession, shall be prima facie evidence of conversion; 11

(6) Failing to keep records, maintain a trust account, or return
 collateral or security, as required by RCW 18.185.100;

14 (7) Any conduct in a bail bond transaction which demonstrates bad15 faith, dishonesty, or untrustworthiness;

16 (8) Violation of an order to cease and desist that is issued by the 17 director under ((this)) chapter <u>18.235 RCW</u>;

(9) Wearing, displaying, holding, or using badges not approved bythe department;

20 (10) Making any statement that would reasonably cause another 21 person to believe that the bail bond recovery agent is a sworn peace 22 officer;

(11) Failing to carry a copy of the contract or to present a copyof the contract as required under RCW 18.185.270(1);

(12) Using the services of an unlicensed bail bond recovery agent or using the services of a bail bond recovery agent without issuing the proper contract;

(13) Misrepresenting or knowingly making a material misstatement or
 omission in the application for a license;

30 (14) Using the services of a person performing the functions of a 31 bail bond recovery agent who has not been licensed by the department as 32 required by this chapter; or

33 (15) Performing the functions of a bail bond recovery agent without 34 being both (a) licensed under this chapter or supervised by a licensed 35 bail bond recovery agent under RCW 18.185.290; and (b) under contract 36 with a bail bond agent. 1 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.185.120 and 2002 c 86 s 252 are each amended to 2 read as follows:

3 In addition to those powers set forth in RCW 18.235.030, the 4 director <u>or the director's designee</u> has the authority:

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(1) To order restitution to the person harmed by the licensee; or (2) To enter into an assurance of discontinuance in lieu of issuing a statement of charges or conducting a hearing. The assurance shall consist of a statement of the law in question and an agreement to not violate the stated provision. The applicant or license holder shall not be required to admit to any violation of the law, and the assurance shall not be construed as such an admission. Violation of an assurance under this subsection is grounds for disciplinary action.

13 Sec. 4. RCW 19.16.410 and 1971 ex.s. c 253 s 32 are each amended 14 to read as follows:

The ((director)) board may ((promulgate)) adopt rules, make specific decisions, orders, and rulings, including therein demands and findings, and take other necessary action for the implementation and enforcement of ((his)) the board's duties under this chapter.

19 Sec. 5. RCW 18.220.040 and 2002 c 86 s 261 are each amended to 20 read as follows:

21 The director has the following authority in administering this 22 chapter:

23 (1) ((To adopt, amend, and rescind rules approved by the board as 24 deemed necessary to carry out this chapter;

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(2))) To adopt fees as provided in RCW 43.24.086; and

26 (((3))) <u>(2)</u> To administer licensing examinations approved by the 27 board ((and to adopt or recognize examinations prepared by other 28 organizations as approved by the board;

29 (4) To adopt standards of professional conduct and practice as 30 approved by the board; and

31 (5) To enter into an assurance of discontinuance in lieu of issuing 32 a statement of charges or conducting a hearing. The assurance shall 33 consist of a statement of the law in question and an agreement to not 34 violate the stated provision. Violation of an assurance under this 35 subsection is grounds for disciplinary action)). 1 **Sec. 6.** RCW 18.220.130 and 2002 c 86 s 263 are each amended to 2 read as follows:

In addition to the unprofessional conduct described in RCW 18.235.130, the following conduct, acts, and conditions constitute unprofessional conduct:

6 (1) Violating any of the provisions of this chapter or the rules 7 adopted under this chapter;

8 (2) Not meeting the qualifications for licensing set forth by this
9 chapter; or

10 (3) ((Failure to comply with an assurance of discontinuance entered 11 into with the director; or

12 (4))) Committing any other act, or failing to act, which act or 13 failure are customarily regarded as being contrary to the accepted 14 professional conduct or standard generally expected of those practicing 15 geology.

16 **Sec. 7.** RCW 18.220.050 and 2002 c 86 s 262 are each amended to 17 read as follows:

18 The board has the following authority in administering this 19 chapter:

(1) To ((establish)) adopt, amend, and rescind rules((, including board organization and assignment of terms, and meeting frequency and timing, for adoption by the director)) as deemed necessary to carry out this chapter;

(2) To establish the minimum qualifications for applicants forlicensure as provided by this chapter;

(3) To approve the method of administration for examinations
required by this chapter or by rule ((as established by the director)).
To ((approve the adoption)) adopt or ((recognition of)) recognize
examinations prepared by other organizations ((for adoption by the
director)). To set the time and place of examinations with the
approval of the director;

32 (4) To ((establish and review)) adopt standards of professional 33 conduct and practice ((for adoption by the director)). Rules of 34 professional conduct will be consistent with those outlined for 35 engineers and land surveyors; and

36 (5) To designate specialties of geology to be licensed under this 37 chapter.

- 1 sec. 8. RCW 18.165.170 and 2002 c 86 s 246 are each amended to
 2 read as follows:
- 3 The director <u>or the director's designee</u> has the following authority 4 in administering this chapter:

5 (1) To adopt, amend, and rescind rules as deemed necessary to carry 6 out this chapter;

- 7 (2) To enter into contracts for professional services determined to
 8 be necessary for adequate enforcement of this chapter; and
- 9 (3) To adopt standards of professional conduct or practice((+

10 (4) To enter into an assurance of discontinuance in lieu of issuing 11 a statement of charges or conducting a hearing. The assurance shall 12 consist of a statement of the law in question and an agreement to not 13 violate the stated provision. The applicant or license holder shall 14 not be required to admit to any violation of the law, and the assurance 15 shall not be construed as such an admission. Violation of an assurance 16 under this subsection is grounds for disciplinary action; and

- 17 (5) To employ such administrative and clerical staff as necessary 18 for the enforcement of this chapter)).
- 19 Sec. 9. RCW 18.170.180 and 2002 c 86 s 249 are each amended to 20 read as follows:

The director <u>or the director's designee</u> has the following authority in administering this chapter:

(1) To adopt, amend, and rescind rules as deemed necessary to carryout this chapter;

25 (2) To adopt standards of professional conduct or practice; <u>and</u>

26 (3) ((To enter into an assurance of discontinuance in lieu of issuing a statement of charges or conducting a hearing. The assurance 27 28 shall consist of a statement of the law in question and an agreement to 29 not violate the stated provision. The applicant or license holder 30 shall not be required to admit to any violation of the law, and the 31 assurance shall not be construed as such an admission. Violation of an 32 assurance under this subsection is grounds for disciplinary action; and (4)) To employ such administrative and clerical staff as necessary 33 34 for the enforcement of this chapter.

35 **Sec. 10.** RCW 18.235.005 and 2002 c 86 s 101 are each amended to 36 read as follows:

It is the intent of the legislature to consolidate disciplinary 1 2 procedures for the licensed businesses and professions under the ((business and professions division of the)) department of licensing by 3 providing a uniform disciplinary act ((for businesses and professions)) 4 with standardized procedures for the regulation of businesses and 5 professions and the enforcement of laws, the purpose of which is to 6 7 assure the public of the adequacy of business and professional competence and conduct. 8

It is also the intent of the legislature that all businesses and 9 professions newly credentialed by the state and regulated by the 10 ((business and professions division of the)) department of licensing 11 12 come under this chapter.

13 Sec. 11. RCW 18.235.010 and 2002 c 86 s 102 are each amended to read as follows: 14

15 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter 16 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

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(1) "Board" means those boards specified in RCW 18.235.020(2)(b).

(2) "Department" means the department of licensing. 18

19 (3) "Director" means the director of the department or director's 20 designee.

21 (4) "Disciplinary action" means sanctions identified in RCW 22 18.235.110.

23 (5) "Disciplinary authority" means the director, board, or 24 commission having the authority to take disciplinary action against a holder of, or applicant for, a professional or business license upon a 25 26 finding of a violation of this chapter or a chapter specified under RCW 27 18.235.020.

(6) "License," "licensing," and "licensure" are deemed equivalent 28 to the terms "license," "licensing," "licensure," "certificate," 29 30 "certification," and "registration" as those terms are defined in RCW 18.118.020. Each of these terms, and the term "appointment" under 31 chapter 42.44 RCW, are interchangeable under the provisions of this 32 33 chapter.

34 (7) "Unlicensed practice" means:

(a) Practicing a profession or operating a business identified in 35 36 RCW 18.235.020 without holding a valid, unexpired, unrevoked, and 37 unsuspended license to do so; or

1 (b) Representing to a ((consumer)) person, through offerings, 2 advertisements, or use of a professional title or designation, that the 3 individual or business is qualified to practice a profession or operate 4 a business identified in RCW 18.235.020 without holding a valid, 5 unexpired, unrevoked, and unsuspended license to do so.

6 **Sec. 12.** RCW 18.235.020 and 2006 c 219 s 13 are each amended to 7 read as follows:

8 (1) This chapter applies only to the director and the boards and 9 commissions having jurisdiction in relation to the businesses and 10 professions licensed under the chapters specified in this section. 11 This chapter does not apply to any business or profession not licensed 12 under the chapters specified in this section.

(2)(a) The director has authority under this chapter in relation tothe following businesses and professions:

15 (i) Auctioneers under chapter 18.11 RCW;

16 (ii) Bail bond agents <u>and bail bond recovery agents</u> under chapter 17 18.185 RCW;

18 (iii) Camping resorts' operators and salespersons under chapter 19 19.105 RCW;

20 (iv) Commercial telephone solicitors under chapter 19.158 RCW;

(v) Cosmetologists, barbers, manicurists, and estheticians under chapter 18.16 RCW;

23 (vi) Court reporters under chapter 18.145 RCW;

24 (vii) Driver training schools and instructors under chapter 46.82 25 RCW;

26 (viii) Employment agencies under chapter 19.31 RCW;

27 (ix) For hire vehicle operators under chapter 46.72 RCW;

28 (x) Limousines under chapter 46.72A RCW;

29 (xi) Notaries public under chapter 42.44 RCW;

30 (xii) Private investigators under chapter 18.165 RCW;

31 (xiii) Professional boxing, martial arts, and wrestling under 32 chapter 67.08 RCW;

33 (xiv) Real estate appraisers under chapter 18.140 RCW;

34 (xv) Real estate brokers and salespersons under chapters 18.85 and 35 18.86 RCW;

36 (xvi) Security guards under chapter 18.170 RCW;

37 (xvii) Sellers of travel under chapter 19.138 RCW;

- (xviii) Timeshares and timeshare salespersons under chapter 64.36
 RCW; and
- 3 (xix) Whitewater river outfitters under chapter 79A.60 RCW.

4 (b) The boards and commissions having authority under this chapter 5 are as follows:

6 (i) The state board of registration for architects established in 7 chapter 18.08 RCW;

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(ii) The cemetery board established in chapter 68.05 RCW;

9 (iii) The Washington state collection agency board established in 10 chapter 19.16 RCW;

(iv) The state board of registration for professional engineers and land surveyors established in chapter 18.43 RCW governing licenses issued under chapters 18.43 and 18.210 RCW;

14 (v) The state board of funeral directors and embalmers established 15 in chapter 18.39 RCW;

16 (vi) The state board of registration for landscape architects 17 established in chapter 18.96 RCW; and

18 (vii) The state geologist licensing board established in chapter 19 18.220 RCW.

(3) In addition to the authority to discipline license holders, the 20 21 disciplinary authority may grant or deny licenses based on the 22 conditions and criteria established in this chapter and the chapters specified in subsection (2) of this section. This chapter also governs 23 24 any investigation, hearing, or proceeding relating to denial of licensure or issuance of a license conditioned on the applicant's 25 compliance with an order entered under RCW 18.235.110 by the 26 27 disciplinary authority.

28 **Sec. 13.** RCW 18.235.040 and 2002 c 86 s 105 are each amended to 29 read as follows:

30 ((In addition to the authority specified in RCW 18.235.030,)) <u>The</u> 31 director has the following additional authority:

(1) To employ investigative, administrative, and clerical staff as
 necessary for the enforcement of this chapter, except as provided
 otherwise by statute;

35 (2) Upon request of a board or commission, to appoint not more than 36 three pro tem members as provided in this subsection. Individuals 37 appointed as pro tem members of a board or commission must meet the 1 same minimum qualifications as regular members of the board or 2 commission. While serving as a pro tem board or commission member, a 3 person so appointed has all the powers, duties, and immunities, and is 4 entitled to the entitlements, including travel expenses in accordance 5 with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060, of a regular member of the board or 6 commission; and

7 (3) To establish fees to be paid for witnesses, expert witnesses,
8 and consultants used in any investigation or adjudicative proceedings
9 as authorized by RCW 34.05.446.

10 **Sec. 14.** RCW 18.235.050 and 2002 c 86 s 106 are each amended to 11 read as follows:

12 (1) If the disciplinary authority determines, upon investigation, 13 that there is reason to believe ((a violation of RCW 18.235.130 has occurred, a statement of charge or charges may be prepared and served 14 upon the license holder or applicant. The statement of charge or 15 16 charges must be accompanied by a notice that the license holder or 17 applicant may request a hearing to contest the charge or charges)) that a license holder or applicant for a license has violated RCW 18.235.130 18 or has not met a minimum eligibility criteria for licensure, the 19 20 disciplinary authority may prepare and serve the license holder or applicant a statement of charge, charges, or intent to deny. A notice 21 that the license holder or applicant may request a hearing to contest 22 23 the charge, charges, or intent to deny must accompany the statement. 24 The license holder or applicant must file a request for a hearing with the disciplinary authority within twenty days after being served the 25 26 statement of charges or statement of intent to deny. The failure to request a hearing constitutes a default, whereupon the disciplinary 27 authority may enter a decision on the facts available to it. 28

29 (2) If a ((hearing is requested, the time of the hearing must be 30 fixed by the disciplinary authority as soon as convenient, but the 31 hearing may not be held earlier than thirty days after service of 32 charges upon the license holder or applicant, unless the disciplinary 33 authority has issued a summary suspension or summary restriction, for 34 which a hearing may be held sooner than thirty days after service of 35 charges)) license holder or applicant for a license requests a hearing, 36 the disciplinary authority must fix the time of the hearing as soon as convenient, but not earlier than thirty days after the service of 37

<u>charge</u>, <u>charges</u>, <u>or intent to deny</u>. <u>The disciplinary authority may</u>
 <u>hold a hearing sooner than thirty days only if the disciplinary</u>
 authority has issued a summary suspension or summary restriction.

4 **Sec. 15.** RCW 18.235.080 and 2002 c 86 s 109 are each amended to 5 read as follows:

6 An order pursuant to proceedings authorized by this chapter, after 7 due notice and findings in accordance with this chapter and chapter 34.05 RCW, or an order of summary suspension entered under this 8 chapter, takes effect immediately upon its being served. The final 9 order, if appealed to the court, may not be stayed pending the appeal 10 11 unless the disciplinary authority or court to which the appeal is taken 12 enters an order staying the order of the disciplinary authority, which stay shall provide for terms necessary to protect the public. 13

14 **Sec. 16.** RCW 18.235.090 and 2002 c 86 s 110 are each amended to 15 read as follows:

16 ((An individual)) <u>A person</u> who has been disciplined or ((whose 17 license)) has been denied <u>a license</u> by a disciplinary authority may 18 appeal the decision as provided in chapter 34.05 RCW.

19 **Sec. 17.** RCW 18.235.100 and 2002 c 86 s 111 are each amended to 20 read as follows:

21 A person whose license has been suspended or revoked under this 22 chapter may petition the disciplinary authority for reinstatement after an interval of time and upon conditions determined by the disciplinary 23 24 authority in the order suspending or revoking the license. The disciplinary authority shall act on the petition in accordance with the 25 adjudicative proceedings provided under chapter 34.05 RCW and may 26 impose such conditions as authorized by RCW 18.235.110. 27 The 28 disciplinary authority may require successful completion of an 29 examination as $((\{a\})) \ge a$ condition of reinstatement.

30 **Sec. 18.** RCW 18.235.110 and 2002 c 86 s 112 are each amended to 31 read as follows:

32 (1) Upon finding unprofessional conduct, the disciplinary authority 33 may issue an order providing for one or any combination of the 34 following:

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(a) Revocation of the license for an interval of time;

(b) Suspension of the license for a fixed or indefinite term;

(c) Restriction or limitation of the practice;

4 (d) Satisfactory completion of a specific program of remedial
5 education or treatment;

6 (e) Monitoring of the practice in a manner directed by the 7 disciplinary authority;

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(f) Censure or reprimand;

9 (g) Compliance with conditions of probation for a designated period 10 of time;

(h) Payment of a fine for each violation found by the disciplinary authority, not to exceed five thousand dollars per violation. The disciplinary authority must consider aggravating or mitigating circumstances in assessing any fine. Funds received must be deposited in the related program account;

16 (i) Denial of an initial or renewal license application <u>for an</u> 17 <u>interval of time</u>; or

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(j) Other corrective action.

19 (2) The disciplinary authority may require reimbursement to the 20 disciplinary authority for the investigative costs incurred in 21 investigating the matter that resulted in issuance of an order under 22 this section, but only if any of the sanctions in subsection (1)(a) 23 through (j) of this section is ordered.

24 (3) Any of the actions under this section may be totally or partly stayed by the disciplinary authority. In determining what action is 25 appropriate, the disciplinary authority must first consider what 26 27 sanctions are necessary to protect the public health, safety, or Only after these provisions have been made may the 28 welfare. disciplinary authority consider and include in the order requirements 29 designed to rehabilitate the license holder or applicant. All costs 30 associated with compliance with orders issued under this section are 31 32 the obligation of the license holder or applicant.

(4) The licensee or applicant may enter into a stipulated disposition of charges that includes one or more of the sanctions of this section, but only after a statement of charges has been issued and the licensee has been afforded the opportunity for a hearing and has elected on the record to forego such a hearing. The stipulation shall either contain one or more specific findings of unprofessional conduct or a statement by the licensee acknowledging that evidence is
 sufficient to justify one or more specified findings of unprofessional
 conduct. The stipulations entered into under this subsection are
 considered formal disciplinary action for all purposes.

5 **Sec. 19.** RCW 18.235.130 and 2002 c 86 s 114 are each amended to 6 read as follows:

7 The following conduct, acts, or conditions constitute 8 unprofessional conduct for any license holder or applicant under the 9 jurisdiction of this chapter:

10 The commission of any act involving moral turpitude, (1)11 dishonesty, or corruption relating to the practice of the person's 12 profession or operation of the person's business, whether the act 13 constitutes a crime or not. At the disciplinary hearing a certified copy of a final holding of any court of competent jurisdiction is 14 conclusive evidence of the conduct of the license holder or applicant 15 upon which a conviction or the final holding is based. 16 Upon a conviction, however, the judgment and sentence is conclusive evidence 17 at the ensuing disciplinary hearing of the guilt of the license holder 18 or applicant of the crime described in the indictment or information, 19 20 and of the person's violation of the statute on which it is based. For 21 the purposes of this ((section)) subsection, conviction includes all instances in which a plea of guilty or nolo contendere is the basis for 22 23 the conviction and all proceedings in which the sentence has been 24 deferred or suspended. Except as specifically provided by law, nothing in this ((section)) subsection abrogates the provisions of chapter 25 26 9.96A RCW. However, RCW 9.96A.020 does not apply to a person who is 27 required to register as a sex offender under RCW 9A.44.130;

(2) Misrepresentation or concealment of a material fact in
 obtaining <u>or renewing</u> a license or in reinstatement thereof;

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(3) Advertising that is false, deceptive, or misleading;

31 (4) Incompetence, negligence, or malpractice that results in harm 32 or damage to ((a consumer)) another or that creates an unreasonable 33 risk ((that a consumer may be harmed or damaged)) of harm or damage to 34 another;

35 (5) The suspension, revocation, or restriction of a license to 36 engage in any business or profession by competent authority in any 1 state, federal, or foreign jurisdiction. A certified copy of the 2 order, stipulation, or agreement is conclusive evidence of the 3 revocation, suspension, or restriction;

4 (6) Failure to cooperate with the disciplinary authority in the 5 course of an investigation, audit, or inspection authorized by law by:

6 (a) Not furnishing any papers or documents requested by the 7 disciplinary authority;

8 (b) Not furnishing in writing an explanation covering the matter 9 contained in a complaint when requested by the disciplinary authority;

10 (c) Not responding to a subpoena issued by the disciplinary 11 authority, whether or not the recipient of the subpoena is the accused 12 in the proceeding; or

13 (d) Not providing authorized access, during regular business hours, 14 to representatives of the disciplinary authority conducting an 15 investigation, inspection, or audit at facilities utilized by the 16 license holder or applicant;

17 (7) Failure to comply with an order issued by the disciplinary 18 authority;

19 (8) Violating any ((lawful rule)) of the provisions of this chapter 20 or the chapters specified in RCW 18.235.020(2) or any rules made by the 21 disciplinary authority <u>under the chapters specified in RCW</u> 22 <u>18.235.020(2);</u>

(9) Aiding or abetting an unlicensed person to practice or operatea business or profession when a license is required;

(10) Practice or operation of a business or profession beyond thescope of practice or operation as defined by law or rule;

(11) Misrepresentation in any aspect of the conduct of the businessor profession;

(12) Failure to adequately supervise or oversee auxiliary staff, whether employees or contractors, to the extent that consumers may be harmed or damaged;

(13) Conviction of any gross misdemeanor or felony relating to the practice of the person's profession or operation of the person's business. For the purposes of this subsection, conviction includes all instances in which a plea of guilty or nolo contendere is the basis for conviction and all proceedings in which the sentence has been deferred or suspended. Except as specifically provided by law, nothing in this

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1 ((section)) subsection abrogates the provisions of chapter 9.96A RCW. 2 However, RCW 9.96A.020 does not apply to a person who is required to 3 register as a sex offender under RCW 9A.44.130; ((and))

(14) Interference with an investigation or disciplinary action by 4 5 willful misrepresentation of facts before the disciplinary authority or its authorized representatives, or by the use of threats or harassment 6 against any consumer or witness to discourage them from providing 7 evidence in a disciplinary action or any other legal action, or by the 8 9 use of financial inducements to any consumer or witness to prevent or 10 attempt to prevent him or her from providing evidence in a disciplinary action; and 11

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(15) Engaging in unlicensed practice as defined in RCW 18.235.010.

13 **Sec. 20.** RCW 18.235.150 and 2002 c 86 s 116 are each amended to 14 read as follows:

(1) The disciplinary authority may investigate complaints concerning practice by unlicensed persons of a profession or business for which a license is required by the chapters specified in RCW 18.235.020. In the investigation of the complaints, the director has the same authority as provided the disciplinary authority under RCW 18.235.030.

(2) The disciplinary authority may issue a notice of intent to issue a cease and desist order to any person whom the disciplinary authority has reason to believe is engaged <u>or is about to engage</u> in the unlicensed practice of a profession or operation of a business for which a license is required by the chapters specified in RCW 18.235.020.

27 (3) The disciplinary authority may issue a notice of intent to 28 issue a cease and desist order to any person whom the disciplinary 29 authority has reason to believe is engaged or is about to engage in an 30 act or practice constituting a violation of this chapter or the 31 chapters specified in RCW 18.235.020(2) or a rule adopted or order 32 issued under those chapters.

33 (4) The person to whom such a notice is issued may request an 34 adjudicative proceeding to contest the allegations. The notice shall 35 include a brief, plain statement of the alleged unlicensed activities, 36 act, or practice constituting a violation of this chapter. The request 37 for hearing must be filed within twenty days after service of the notice of intent to issue a cease and desist order. The failure to request a hearing constitutes a default, whereupon the ((director)) disciplinary authority may enter a permanent cease and desist order, which may include a civil fine. All proceedings shall be conducted in accordance with chapter 34.05 RCW.

(5) If the disciplinary authority makes a final б (((3))) 7 determination that a person has engaged or is engaging in unlicensed practice or other act or practice constituting a violation of this 8 <u>chapter</u>, the ((director)) <u>disciplinary authority</u> may issue a permanent 9 cease and desist order. In addition, the disciplinary authority may 10 impose a civil fine in an amount not exceeding one thousand dollars for 11 12 each day upon which the person engaged in the unlicensed practice of a 13 profession or operation of a business for which a license is required 14 by one or more of the chapters specified in RCW 18.235.020. The proceeds of such a fine shall be deposited in the related program 15 16 account.

17 (((4) If the disciplinary authority makes a written finding of fact that the public interest will be irreparably harmed by delay in issuing 18 an order,)) (6) The disciplinary authority may issue a temporary cease 19 and desist order if a person is engaged or is about to engage in 20 21 unlicensed practice or other act or practice constituting a violation of this chapter if the disciplinary authority makes a written finding 22 of fact that the public interest will be irreparably harmed by delay in 23 24 issuing an order. The person receiving a temporary cease and desist 25 order shall be provided an opportunity for a prompt hearing. Α temporary cease and desist order shall remain in effect until further 26 27 order of the disciplinary authority. The failure to request a prompt or regularly scheduled hearing constitutes a default, whereupon the 28 disciplinary authority may enter a permanent cease and desist order, 29 which may include a civil fine. 30

31 (((5))) (7) The cease and desist order is conclusive proof of 32 unlicensed practice or other act or practice constituting a violation 33 of this chapter and may be enforced under RCW 7.21.060. This method of 34 enforcement of the cease and desist order or civil fine may be used in 35 addition to, or as an alternative to, any provisions for enforcement of 36 agency orders set out in chapter 34.05 RCW.

37 (((-6))) (8) The attorney general, a county prosecuting attorney, 38 the director, a board or commission, or any person may, in accordance with the laws of this state governing injunctions, maintain an action in the name of the state of Washington to enjoin any person practicing a profession or business without a license for which a license is required by the chapters specified in RCW 18.235.020. All fees, fines, forfeitures, and penalties collected or assessed by a court because of a violation of this section shall be deposited in the related program account.

8 (((7))) <u>(9)</u> The civil remedies in this section do not limit the 9 ability to pursue criminal prosecution as authorized in any of the acts 10 specified in RCW 18.235.020 nor do the civil remedies limit any 11 criminal sanctions.

12 **Sec. 21.** RCW 18.235.210 and 2002 c 86 s 122 are each amended to 13 read as follows:

(1) This chapter applies to any conduct, acts, or conditionsoccurring on or after January 1, 2003.

16 (2) This chapter does not apply to or govern the construction of 17 and disciplinary action for any conduct, acts, or conditions occurring 18 prior to January 1, 2003. The conduct, acts, or conditions must be 19 construed and disciplinary action taken according to the provisions of 20 law existing at the time of the occurrence in the same manner as if 21 this chapter had not been enacted.

22 (3) Notwithstanding subsection (2) of this section, this chapter
 23 applies to applications for licensure made on or after January 1, 2003.

24 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Sec. 22. The following acts or parts of acts are 25 each repealed:

26 (1) RCW 18.140.175 (Cease and desist orders) and 1993 c 30 s 19;

27 (2) RCW 18.85.343 (Violations--Cease and desist orders) and 1997 c
28 322 s 22, 1989 c 175 s 67, & 1977 ex.s. c 261 s 2;

29 (3) RCW 18.220.140 (Unprofessional conduct--Hearing before 30 director--Orders) and 2000 c 253 s 15;

31 (4) RCW 18.220.150 (Unprofessional conduct--Written complaint--32 Investigation) and 2002 c 86 s 264 & 2000 c 253 s 16;

33 (5) RCW 18.220.170 (Prohibited acts--Class 1 civil infractions) and 34 2000 c 253 s 18; and 1 (6) RCW 18.220.180 (Violation of chapter--Injunction to restrain--

2 Director's authority) and 2000 c 253 s 19.

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