
A BILL FOR AN ACT

RELATING TO OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING REFORM TASK FORCE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The legislature finds that occupational
2 licensing is a barrier to economic freedom for many people.
3 Hawaii has over one hundred eighty professional and vocational
4 license. As an example, needing a license to braid hair is over
5 regulation. This Act creates a task force to review the current
6 licensing requirements and establish a legislative framework
7 that will provide consumers the ability to choose whom to
8 receive goods and services from, regardless of whether the
9 seller or provider is licensed by a regulatory agency within
10 Hawaii.

11 SECTION 2. (a) There is established an occupational
12 licensing task force to consist of the following members:

13 (1) A representative from the department of commerce and
14 consumer affairs' regulated industries complaints office;

15 (2) A representative from the division of professional and
16 vocational licensing department of commerce and consumer
17 affairs;



- 1 (3) Three representatives from the various boards under
2 the purview of the department of commerce and consumer
3 affairs appointed by the director;
- 4 (4) two members from the business community to be appointed
5 by the governor;
- 6 (5) The chair of the house committee on consumer
7 protection & commerce or the chair's designee; and
- 8 (6) The chair of the senate committee on commerce,
9 consumer protection, or the chair's designee.
- 10 (b) The task force shall investigate the current
11 occupational licensing requirements in the state. The
12 investigation shall include, but is not limited to:
- 13 (1) Identification of any current occupational licenses
14 that are not necessary for the health and safety of the
15 consumer;
- 16 (2) Identification of occupational license requirements
17 that can be reduced and without harm to the consumer;
- 18 (3) Identification of licenses that can be replaced with
19 bonding or insurance requirements, inspections, or private
20 certifications;



1 (4) Propose legislation that would allow for more consumer
2 choice, more business opportunities, and less regulation;
3 and

4 (5) Identify any fiscal impact to the State and propose
5 mechanisms to mitigate that impact.

6 (c) The task force shall submit a preliminary report of
7 its findings to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
8 to the convening of the regular session of 2024.

9 (d) The task force shall submit the final report of its
10 findings and recommendations, including any proposed
11 legislation, to the legislature no later than twenty days prior
12 to the convening of the regular session of 2025.

13 (e) The task force shall serve until it has accomplished
14 the purpose of this Act or twenty days prior to the convening of
15 the regular session of 2025, whichever occurs first.

16 (f) The members of the task force shall serve without
17 compensation but shall be reimbursed by the department of
18 commerce and consumer affairs for necessary expenses, including
19 travel expenses, incurred for service on the task force. No
20 member of the task force shall be made subject to section 84-17,
21 Hawaii Revised Statutes, solely because of that member's



1 participation on the task force. The task force shall be exempt
2 from chapter 92, Hawaii Revised Statutes.

3 (g) The chair of the house committee on consumer
4 protection & commerce, or the chair's designee, and the chair of
5 the senate committee on commerce, consumer protection, and
6 health, or the chair's designee, shall convene the task force.
7 The task force shall be administratively supported by the
8 department of commerce and consumer affairs.

9 SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the general
10 revenues of the State of Hawaii the sum of \$ or so much
11 thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2023-2024 and the
12 same for fiscal year 2024-2025 for the purposes of this Act.

13 The sums appropriated shall be expended by the department
14 of commerce and consumer affairs for the purposes of this Act.

15 SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2023.

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INTRODUCED BY:

Jan M. Tate
JAN 20 2023



H.B. NO. 631

Report Title:

Occupational licensing review task force.

Description:

A bill establishing a task force to examine the state policy for the regulation and licensing of occupations. Preliminary report to the 2024 legislature, final report and proposed legislation to the 2025 legislature.

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