

## LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Comm: RCS 02/05/2012

The Committee on Regulated Industries (Jones) recommended the following:

## Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (12) is added to section 455.213, Florida Statutes, to read:

455.213 General licensing provisions.-

(12) The department shall waive the initial licensing fee, the initial application fee, and the initial unlicensed activity fee for a military veteran who applies to the department for a license, in a format prescribed by the department, within 24 months after discharge from any branch of the United States

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Armed Forces. To qualify for this waiver, the veteran must have been honorably discharged.

Section 2. Subsection (1) of section 455.2179, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

455.2179 Continuing education provider and course approval; cease and desist orders.-

(1) If a board, or the department if there is no board, requires completion of continuing education as a requirement for renewal of a license, the board, or the department if there is no board, shall approve the providers and courses for of the continuing education. Notwithstanding this subsection or any other provision of law, the department may approve continuing education providers or courses even if there is a board. If the department determines that an application for a continuing education provider or course requires expert review or should be denied, the department shall forward the application to the appropriate board for review and approval or denial. The approval of continuing education providers and courses must be for a specified period of time, not to exceed 4 years. An approval that does not include such a time limitation may remain in effect pursuant to the applicable practice act or the rules adopted under the applicable practice act. Notwithstanding this subsection or any other provision of law, only the department may determine the contents of any documents submitted for approval of a continuing education provider or course.

Section 3. Paragraph (b) of subsection (6) of section 455.271, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

455.271 Inactive and delinquent status.-

(6)



(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of the professional practice acts administered by the department, the board, or the department if there is no board, may, at its discretion, reinstate the license of an individual whose license has become void if the board or department, as applicable, determines that the individual has made a good faith effort to comply with this section but has failed to comply because of illness or unusual economic hardship. The individual must apply to the board, or the department if there is no board, for reinstatement in a manner prescribed by rules of the board or the department, as applicable, and shall pay an applicable fee in an amount determined by rule. The board, or the department if there is no board, shall require that such individual meet all continuing education requirements prescribed by law, pay appropriate licensing fees, and otherwise be eligible for renewal of licensure under this chapter.

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This subsection does not apply to individuals subject to regulation under chapter 473.

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Section 4. Section 455.273, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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455.273 Renewal and cancellation notices.-

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(1) At least 90 days before the end of a licensure cycle, the department of Business and Professional Regulation shall:

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(1) (a) Forward a licensure renewal notification to an active or inactive licensee at the licensee's last known address of record or e-mail address provided to with the department.

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(2) (b) Forward a notice of pending cancellation of licensure to a delinquent status licensee at the licensee's last

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known address of record or e-mail address provided to with the department.

(2) Each licensure renewal notification and each notice of pending cancellation of licensure must state conspicuously that a licensee who remains on inactive status for more than two consecutive biennial licensure cycles and who wishes to reactivate the license may be required to demonstrate the competency to resume active practice by sitting for a special purpose examination or by completing other reactivation requirements, as defined by rule of the board or the department when there is no board.

Section 5. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 455.275, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

455.275 Address of record.-

- (1) Each licensee of the department is solely responsible for notifying the department in writing of the licensee's current mailing address, e-mail-address, and place of practice, as defined by rule of the board or the department when there is no board. A licensee's failure to notify the department of a change of address constitutes a violation of this section, and the licensee may be disciplined by the board or the department when there is no board.
- (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, service by regular mail or e-mail to a licensee's last known mailing address or e-mail address of record with the department constitutes adequate and sufficient notice to the licensee for any official communication to the licensee by the board or the department except when other service is required pursuant to s. 455.225.

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Section 6. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section 475.451, Florida Statutes, is amended, present subsections (4) through (8) are renumbered as subsections (5) through (9), respectively, and a new subsection (4) is added to that section, to read:

475.451 Schools teaching real estate practice.-

- (2) An applicant for a permit to operate a proprietary real estate school, to be a chief administrator of a proprietary real estate school or a state institution, or to be an instructor for a proprietary real estate school or a state institution must meet the qualifications for practice set forth in s. 475.17(1) and the following minimal requirements:
- (c) "School instructor" means an individual who instructs persons in the classroom in noncredit college courses in a college, university, or community college or courses in a career center or proprietary real estate school.
- 1. Before commencing to provide such instruction, the applicant must certify the applicant's competency and obtain an instructor permit by meeting one of the following requirements:
- a. Hold a bachelor's degree in a business-related subject, such as real estate, finance, accounting, business administration, or its equivalent and hold a valid broker's license in this state.
- b. Hold a bachelor's degree, have extensive real estate experience, as defined by rule, and hold a valid broker's license in this state.
- c. Pass an instructor's examination approved by the commission.
  - 2. Any requirement by the commission for a teaching



demonstration or practical examination must apply to all school instructor applicants.

3. The department shall renew an instructor permit upon receipt of a renewal application and fee. The renewal application shall include proof that the permitholder has, since the issuance or renewal of the current permit, successfully completed a minimum of 7 classroom or distance learning hours of instruction in real estate subjects or instructional techniques, as prescribed by the commission. The commission shall adopt rules providing for the renewal of instructor permits at least every 2 years. Any permit that which is not renewed at the end of the permit period established by the department shall automatically reverts revert to involuntarily inactive status.

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The department may require an applicant to submit names of persons having knowledge concerning the applicant and the enterprise; may propound interrogatories to such persons and to the applicant concerning the character of the applicant, including the taking of fingerprints for processing through the Federal Bureau of Investigation; and shall make such investigation of the applicant or the school or institution as it may deem necessary to the granting of the permit. If an objection is filed, it shall be considered in the same manner as objections or administrative complaints against other applicants for licensure by the department.

(4) A real estate school may offer any course through distance learning if the course complies with s. 475.17(2).

Section 7. Paragraphs (c) and (d) of subsection (1) of section 475.611, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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475.611 Definitions.-

- (1) As used in this part, the term:
- (c) "Appraisal management company" means a person who performs appraisal management services regardless of the use of the term "appraisal management company," "appraiser cooperative," "appraiser portal," "mortgage technology company," or other term.
- (d) "Appraisal management services" means the coordination or management of appraisal services for compensation by:
- 1. Employing, contracting with, or otherwise retaining one or more licensed or certified appraisers to perform appraisal services for a client; or
- 2. Acting as a broker or intermediary between a client and one or more licensed or certified appraisers to facilitate the client's employing, contracting with, or otherwise retaining the appraisers.

Section 8. Subsection (4) of section 475.6171, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 475.6171 Issuance of registration or certification.-The registration or certification of an applicant may be issued upon receipt by the board of the following:
- (4) If required, proof of passing a written examination as specified in s. 475.616. No certification shall be issued based upon any examination results obtained more than 24 months after the date of examination.

Section 9. Subsection (1) of section 475.6235, Florida Statutes, is amended, and subsection (9) is added to that section, to read:

475.6235 Registration of appraisal management companies



required; exemptions.-

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- (1) A person may not engage, or offer to engage, in appraisal management services for compensation in this state or  $\tau$ advertise or represent herself or himself as an appraisal management company, or use the titles "appraisal management company," "appraiser cooperative," "appraiser portal," or "mortgage technology company," or any abbreviation or words to that effect, unless the person is registered with the department as an appraisal management company under this section. However, an employee of an appraisal management company is not required to obtain a separate registration.
- (9) This section does not apply to any bank, credit union, or other lending institution that owns and operates an internal appraisal office, business unit, or department.

Section 10. Paragraph (v) is added to subsection (1) of section 475.6245, Florida Statutes, to read:

475.6245 Discipline of appraisal management companies .-

- (1) The board may deny an application for registration of an appraisal management company; may investigate the actions of any appraisal management company registered under this part; may reprimand or impose an administrative fine not to exceed \$5,000 for each count or separate offense against any such appraisal management company; and may revoke or suspend, for a period not to exceed 10 years, the registration of any such appraisal management company, or place any such appraisal management company on probation, if the board finds that the appraisal management company or any person listed in s. 475.6235(2)(f):
- (v) Has required or attempted to require an appraiser to sign any indemnification agreement that would require the

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appraiser to hold harmless the appraisal management company or its owners, agents, employees, or independent contractors from any liability, damage, loss, or claim arising from the services performed by the appraisal management company or its owners, agents, employees, or independent contractors and not the services performed by the appraiser.

Section 11. Subsection (2) of section 476.188, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

476.188 Barber services to be performed in registered barbershop; exception.-

(2) Pursuant to rules established by the board, barber services may be performed by a licensed barber in a location other than a registered barbershop, including, but not limited to, a nursing home, hospital, place of employment, or residence, when a client for reasons of ill health is unable to go to a registered barbershop. Arrangements for the performance of barber services in a location other than a registered barbershop shall be made only through a registered barbershop.

Section 12. Subsection (7) is added to section 477.0135, Florida Statutes, to read:

477.0135 Exemptions.—

(7) A license is not required of any individual providing makeup services to the general public.

Section 13. Subsection (6) of section 477.019, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

477.019 Cosmetologists; qualifications; licensure; supervised practice; license renewal; endorsement; continuing education.-

(6) The board shall adopt rules specifying procedures for

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the licensure by endorsement of practitioners desiring to be licensed in this state who hold a current active license in another state and who have met qualifications substantially similar to, equivalent to, or greater than the qualifications required of applicants from this state. For purposes of qualifying for licensure by endorsement under this subsection, work experience may be substituted for required educational hours in the amount and manner provided by board rule.

Section 14. Subsection (4) is added to section 477.0263, Florida Statutes, to read:

477.0263 Cosmetology services to be performed in licensed salon; exceptions exception.-

(4) Pursuant to rules adopted by the board, any cosmetology or specialty service may be performed in a location other than a licensed salon when the service is performed in connection with a special event and is performed by a person who is employed by a licensed salon and who holds the proper license or specialty registration. An appointment for the performance of any such service in a location other than a licensed salon must be made through a licensed salon.

Section 15. Section 489.118, Florida Statutes, is reenacted and amended to read:

489.118 Certification of registered contractors; grandfathering provisions. - The board shall, upon receipt of a completed application and appropriate fee, issue a certificate in the appropriate category to any contractor registered under this part who makes application to the board and can show that he or she meets each of the following requirements:

(1) Currently holds a valid registered local license in one

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of the contractor categories defined in s. 489.105(3)(a)-(p).

- (2) Has, for that category, passed a written examination that the board finds to be substantially similar to the examination required to be licensed as a certified contractor under this part. For purposes of this subsection, a written, proctored examination such as that produced by the National Assessment Institute, Block and Associates, NAI/Block, Experior Assessments, Professional Testing, Inc., or Assessment Systems, Inc., shall be considered to be substantially similar to the examination required to be licensed as a certified contractor. The board may not impose or make any requirements regarding the nature or content of these cited examinations.
- (3) Has at least 5 years of experience as a contractor in that contracting category, or as an inspector or building administrator with oversight over that category, at the time of application. For contractors, only time periods in which the contractor license is active and the contractor is not on probation shall count toward the 5 years required by this subsection.
- (4) Has not had his or her contractor's license revoked at any time, had his or her contractor's license suspended within the last 5 years, or been assessed a fine in excess of \$500 within the last 5 years.
- (5) Is in compliance with the insurance and financial responsibility requirements in s. 489.115(5).

Applicants wishing to obtain a certificate pursuant to this section must make application by November 1, 2014 2005.

Section 16. This act shall take effect October 1, 2012.



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======== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =========== And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert:

A bill to be entitled An act relating to business and professional regulation; amending s. 455.271, F.S.; limiting to the department the authority to reinstate a license that has become void under certain circumstances; amending s. 455.273, F.S.; revising the method of license renewal notification or notice of pending cancellation of licensure to include an e-mail address; deleting a requirement that a licensure renewal notification and a notice of cancellation of licensure include certain information regarding the applicant; amending s. 455.275, F.S.; revising a provision relating to maintenance of current address-of-record information to include e-mail address; revising a provision relating to notice to a licensee to allow service of process by e-mail; amending s. 475.451, F.S.; authorizing distance learning courses as an acceptable alternative to classroom instruction for renewal of a real estate instructor permit; providing that distance learning courses are under the discretion of the school offering the real estate course; requiring distance learning courses to adhere to certain requirements; amending s. 475.611, F.S.; revising the

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definition of the terms "appraisal management company" and "appraisal management services"; amending s. 475.6171, F.S.; revising requirements for the issuance of registration or certification upon receipt of proper documentation; amending s. 475.6235, F.S.; revising provisions relating to titles an appraisal management company must be registered to use; providing exemptions from registration requirements; amending s. 475.6245, F.S.; providing additional grounds for discipline of appraisal management companies, to which penalties apply; amending s. 476.188, F.S.; revising the list of locations for the performance of barber services not in a registered barbershop; amending s. 477.0135, F.S.; exempting from cosmetology licensure individuals who perform makeup services to the general public; amending s. 477.019, F.S.; revising procedures for cosmetology licensure by endorsement to authorize work experience as a substitute for educational hours; amending s. 477.0263, F.S.; authorizing the performance of cosmetology and specialty services in a location other than a licensed salon under certain circumstances; reenacting and amending s. 489.118, F.S.; reviving grandfathering provisions and establishing a new deadline for applications for certification of certain registered contractors; providing an effective date.