

SENATE BILL NO. 1213

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE

(Proposed by the Senate Committee on General Laws and Technology

on _____)

(Patron Prior to Substitute--Senator McDougle)

A BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Chapter 2 of Title 54.1 a section numbered 54.1-205, relating to Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation; universal license recognition.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Chapter 2 of Title 54.1 a section numbered 54.1-205 as follows:

§ 54.1-205. Universal license recognition.

A. The regulatory boards within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation shall, upon application by an individual, recognize licenses or certificates issued by another state as fulfillment of qualifications for licensure or government certification in the Commonwealth if the following conditions are met:

1. The individual holds a current and valid professional or occupational license or government certification in another state in a profession or occupation with a similar scope of practice, as determined by the board in the Commonwealth;

2. The individual has held the professional or occupational license or government certification in the other state for at least three years;

3. The board in the other state or state of original licensure required the individual to pass an examination and to meet certain standards related to education, training, or experience;

4. There are no pending investigations or unresolved complaints against the individual, and the board in the other state holds the individual in good standing;

5. The individual does not have a disqualifying criminal record under state law, as determined by the board in the Commonwealth in accordance with § 54.1-204;

27 6. No board in another state has imposed discipline on the license, except for discipline involving
28 only a financial penalty and no harm to the health or economic well-being of the public; and

29 7. The individual pays all applicable fees.

30 B. The regulatory boards within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation
31 shall, upon application by an individual, recognize work experience in another state as fulfillment of
32 qualifications for licensure or government certification in the Commonwealth if the following conditions
33 are met:

34 1. The individual worked in another state that does not use a professional or occupational license
35 or government certification to regulate a profession or occupation, but the Commonwealth uses a
36 professional or occupational license or government certification to regulate a profession or occupation
37 with a similar scope of practice, as determined by the board;

38 2. The individual has worked in the profession or occupation for at least three years;

39 3. The individual passes any examination required by the board of applicants for licensure or
40 certification; and

41 4. The individual satisfies the conditions outlined in subdivisions A 5, 6, and 7.

42 C. The regulatory boards within the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation may
43 require an individual seeking a professional or occupational licensure or government certification pursuant
44 to this section to pass a jurisprudential examination specific to relevant state laws and administrative rules
45 that regulate such profession or occupation if such an examination is required of other applicants for the
46 same license or certification.

47 D. For purposes of this section, "other state" or "another state" means any state, territory,
48 possession, or jurisdiction of the United States.

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