



General Assembly

January Session, 2021

**Governor's Bill No. 6445**

LCO No. 3216



Referred to Committee on GENERAL LAW

Introduced by:

Request of the Governor Pursuant  
to Joint Rule 9

***AN ACT EXPANDING ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY IN OCCUPATIONS  
LICENSED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER PROTECTION.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General  
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2021*) (a) An occupational or  
2 professional license, permit, certification or registration issued by the  
3 Department of Consumer Protection shall be issued, in the occupation  
4 or profession applied for and at a practice level determined by the  
5 department, to a person who is a resident of this state as defined in  
6 section 12-701 of the general statutes or who is married to an active duty  
7 member of the armed forces of the United States and accompanies said  
8 member, pursuant to an official permanent change of station, to a  
9 military installation located in this state if:

10 (1) The person holds a valid license, permit, certification or  
11 registration in at least one other jurisdiction in the occupation or  
12 profession applied for;

13 (2) The person has practiced under such license, permit, certification  
14 or registration for not less than one year;

15 (3) The person is in good standing in all jurisdictions in which he or  
16 she holds a license, permit, certification or registration and has not had  
17 a license, permit, certification or registration revoked or discipline  
18 imposed by any jurisdiction, does not have a complaint, allegation or  
19 investigation related to unprofessional conduct pending in any  
20 jurisdiction, and has not voluntarily surrendered a license, permit,  
21 certification or registration while under investigation for unprofessional  
22 conduct in any jurisdiction;

23 (4) The person satisfies any background check or character and fitness  
24 check required of other applicants for the license, permit, certification or  
25 registration; and

26 (5) The person pays all fees required of other applicants for the  
27 license, permit, certification or registration.

28 (b) In addition to the requirements set forth in subsection (a) of this  
29 section, the Department of Consumer Protection shall require a person  
30 to take and pass all or a portion of any examination required of other  
31 persons applying for the license, permit, certification or registration  
32 unless the person has taken an exam acceptable to the department or  
33 there is a reciprocal arrangement with the jurisdiction in which the  
34 person is currently credentialed.

35 (c) Any person issued a license, permit, certification or registration  
36 pursuant to this section shall be subject to the laws of this state and the  
37 jurisdiction of the Department of Consumer Protection.

38 (d) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the Commissioner  
39 of Consumer Protection may deny an occupational or professional  
40 license, permit, certification or registration if he or she finds such denial  
41 is in the best interest of the state.

42 (e) A person applying for a license, permit, certification or  
43 registration that is not required to practice an occupation or profession  
44 in at least twenty-five states who relocates to this state from another  
45 state that did not require a license, permit, certification or registration to

46 practice the person's occupation or profession may be considered to  
47 have satisfied the conditions of subdivisions (1) and (2) of subsection (a)  
48 of this section if he or she establishes to the satisfaction of the  
49 Department of Consumer Protection that he or she has three or more  
50 years of related work experience with a substantially similar scope of  
51 practice within the four years preceding the date of application to such  
52 department.

53       Sec. 2. Section 20-333 of the general statutes is repealed and the  
54 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective October 1, 2021*):

55       (a) To obtain a license under this chapter, an applicant shall have  
56 attained such applicant's eighteenth birthday and shall furnish such  
57 evidence of competency as the appropriate board or the Commissioner  
58 of Consumer Protection shall require. A recommendation for review  
59 issued pursuant to section 31-22u shall be sufficient to demonstrate such  
60 competency. The applicant shall satisfy such board or the commissioner  
61 that such applicant [is of good moral character,] possesses a diploma or  
62 other evidence of graduation from the eighth grade of grammar school,  
63 or possesses an equivalent education to be determined on examination  
64 and has the requisite skill to perform the work in the trade for which  
65 such applicant is applying for a license and can comply with all other  
66 requirements of this chapter and the regulations adopted under this  
67 chapter. A recommendation for review issued pursuant to section 31-  
68 22u shall be sufficient to demonstrate that an applicant possesses such  
69 requisite skill and can comply with all other requirements of this chapter  
70 and the regulations adopted under this chapter. For any application  
71 submitted pursuant to this section that requires a hearing or other action  
72 by the applicable examining board or the commissioner, such hearing  
73 or other action by the applicable examining board or the commissioner  
74 shall occur not later than thirty days after the date of submission for  
75 such application. Upon application for any such license, the applicant  
76 shall pay to the department a nonrefundable application fee of ninety  
77 dollars for a license under subdivisions (2) and (3) of subsection (a) and  
78 subdivision (4) of subsection (e) of section 20-334a, or a nonrefundable  
79 application fee of one hundred fifty dollars for a license under

80 subdivision (1) of subsection (a), subdivisions (1) and (2) of subsection  
81 (b), subdivision (1) of subsection (c) and subdivisions (1), (2) and (3) of  
82 subsection (e) of section 20-334a. Any such application fee shall be  
83 waived for persons who present a recommendation for review issued  
84 pursuant to section 31-22u.

85 (b) The department shall conduct such written, oral and practical  
86 examinations as the appropriate board, with the consent of the  
87 commissioner, deems necessary to test the knowledge of the applicant  
88 in the work for which a license is being sought. The department shall  
89 allow any applicant, who has not participated in an apprenticeship  
90 program but presents a recommendation for review issued pursuant to  
91 section 31-22u, to sit for any such examination. Any person completing  
92 the required apprentice training program for a journeyman's license  
93 under section 20-334a shall, within thirty days following such  
94 completion, apply for a licensure examination given by the department.  
95 If an applicant does not pass such licensure examination, the  
96 commissioner shall provide each failed applicant with information on  
97 how to retake the examination and a report describing the applicant's  
98 strengths and weaknesses in such examination. Any apprentice permit  
99 issued under section 20-334a to an applicant who fails three licensure  
100 examinations in any one-year period shall remain in effect if such  
101 applicant applies for and takes the first licensure examination given by  
102 the department following the one-year period from the date of such  
103 applicant's third and last unsuccessful licensure examination.  
104 Otherwise, such permit shall be revoked as of the date of the first  
105 examination given by the department following expiration of such  
106 one-year period.

107 (c) The Commissioner of Consumer Protection, subject to section 46a-  
108 80, may deny a license or may issue a license pursuant to a consent order  
109 containing conditions that shall be met by the applicant if the applicant  
110 reports that he or she has been found guilty or convicted as a result of  
111 an act which constitutes a felony under (1) the laws of this state at the  
112 time of application for such license, (2) federal law at the time of  
113 application for such license, or (3) the laws of another jurisdiction, and

114 which, if committed within this state, would constitute a felony under  
115 the laws of this state.

116 [(c)] (d) When an applicant has qualified for a license, the department  
117 shall, upon receipt of the license fee or upon waiver of such fee pursuant  
118 to section 20-335, issue to such applicant a license entitling such  
119 applicant to engage in the work or occupation for which a license was  
120 sought and shall register each successful applicant's name and address  
121 in the roster of licensed persons authorized to engage in the work or  
122 occupation within the appropriate board's authority. All fees and other  
123 moneys collected by the department shall be promptly transmitted to  
124 the State Treasurer as provided in section 4-32.

125 Sec. 3. (NEW) (Effective October 1, 2021) The Departments of  
126 Administrative Services, Agriculture, Consumer Protection, Correction,  
127 Emergency Services and Public Protection and Public Health, the Labor  
128 Department, and the Office of Early Childhood shall, within ninety  
129 days, report to the Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management on  
130 (1) the number of employees that perform background checks related to  
131 the Agency's licensing functions, the job classifications of such  
132 employees, and the type or level of clearance of the background checks  
133 that are being performed, (2) the number of hours each such employee  
134 spends on average per week performing background checks, and (3) for  
135 any licenses in which some education or training is required of the  
136 applicant prior to obtaining a license, the feasibility of establishing a  
137 preclearance assessment of criminal history prior to potential applicants  
138 beginning such education or training. Such recommendations shall  
139 additionally assess the feasibility of centralizing and standardizing  
140 background checks performed by state government agencies and shall  
141 address any related issues of delegation of authority by such agencies.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	October 1, 2021	New section
Sec. 2	October 1, 2021	20-333
Sec. 3	October 1, 2021	New section

**Statement of Purpose:**

To implement the Governor's budget recommendations.

*[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]*