8. Reciprocity

A. Required Qualifications. An applicant applying for reciprocal licensure shall meet the following requirements:

1. The applicant shall hold a substantially similar license in another United States’ jurisdiction.
   a. A license from another state is substantially similar to an Arkansas chiropractic license if the other state’s licensure qualifications require:
      i. Completion of not less than a minimum of sixty (60) semester credit hours of college education to include a minimum of thirty (30) semester credit hours in the field of science; possess a valid ‘Doctor of Chiropractic’ degree from a chiropractic institution whose requirements include a course of instruction of not less than four (4) years of nine (9) academic months each or not less than four thousand four hundred (4,400) fifty-minute resident class hours and include one hundred twenty (120) classroom hours of physiological therapeutics.
   b. The applicant shall hold his or her occupational licensure in good standing;
   c. The applicant shall not have had a license revoked for:
      i. An act of bad faith; or
      ii. A violation of law, rule, or ethics;
   d. The applicant shall not hold a suspended or probationary license in a United States’ jurisdiction;

2. The applicant shall be sufficiently competent in the practice of chiropractic; and

3. Practice Management, Ethics and Jurisprudence; Physical/Clinical Diagnosis; Chiropractic Examination Procedures; Chiropractic Adjusting & Manipulation; X-Ray Interpretation; Chiropractic Philosophy

B. Required documentation. An applicant shall submit a fully-executed application, the required fee, and the documentation described below.

1. As evidence that the applicant’s license from another jurisdiction is substantially similar to Arkansas’s, the applicant shall submit the following information:
   a. Evidence of current and active licensure in that state. The Board may verify this information online if the jurisdiction at issue provides primary source verification on its website or by telephone to the other state’s licensing board; and
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b. Evidence that the other state’s licensure requirements match those listed in A.1.a.i. The Board may verify this information online or by telephone to the other state’s licensing board.

2. To demonstrate that the applicant meets the requirement in A.1.b. through d., the applicant shall provide the Board with:
   a. The names of all states in which the applicant is currently licensed or has been previously licensed;
   b. Letters of good standing or other information from each state in which the applicant is currently or has ever been licensed showing that the applicant has not had his license revoked for the reasons listed in A.1.c. and does not hold a license on suspended or probationary status as described in A.1.d. The Board may verify this information online if the jurisdiction at issue provides primary source verification on its website or by telephone to the other state’s licensing board.

3. As evidence that the applicant is sufficiently competent in the field of chiropractic, an applicant shall:
   a. Pass parts I, II, III, IV and the physiological therapeutics section of the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners, as well as, the Arkansas State Board of Chiropractic Examiners jurisprudence exam
   b. Submit one (1) letter of recommendation from a licensed chiropractor who has been licensed five (5) or more years

Temporary and Provisional License

A. Board shall issue a temporary and provisional license immediately upon receipt of the application, the required fee, and the documentation required under B.1.a. and b.

B. The temporary and provisional license shall be effective for at least 90 days or until the Board makes a decision on the application, unless the Board determines that the applicant does not meet the requirements in Reciprocity sections A.1., A.2., and A.3., in which case the temporary and provisional license shall be immediately revoked.

C. An applicant may provide the rest of the documentation required above in order to receive a license, or the applicant may only provide the information necessary for the issuance of a temporary and provisional license.
State of Arkansas
92nd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2019

By: Representative Cozart

For An Act To Be Entitled
AN ACT TO CREATE THE RED TAPE REDUCTION EXPEDITED TEMPORARY AND PROVISIONAL LICENSURE ACT; TO AUTHORIZE OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING ENTITIES TO GRANT EXPEDITED TEMPORARY AND PROVISIONAL LICENSING FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle
TO CREATE THE RED TAPE REDUCTION EXPEDITED TEMPORARY AND PROVISIONAL LICENSURE ACT; TO AUTHORIZE OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING ENTITIES TO GRANT EXPEDITED TEMPORARY AND PROVISIONAL LICENSING FOR CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. DO NOT CODIFY. Title.
This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Red Tape Reduction Expedited Temporary and Provisional Licensure Act."

SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. Legislative findings and intent.
(a) The General Assembly finds that:

(1) Arkansas is taking a leading role in the nationwide pursuit of reforms to the system of occupational licensing;

(2) Arkansas became one (1) of eleven (11) states chosen to participate in the Occupational Licensing Policy Learning Consortium, an initiative funded by a grant from the United States Department of Labor and

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supported in partnership with the National Conference of State Legislatures, the Council of State Governments, and the National Governors Association;

(3) Governor Asa Hutchinson appointed seventeen (17) individuals to the Red Tape Reduction Working Group to review and address occupational licensing regulations that create unnecessary barriers to labor market entry; and

(4) The Red Tape Reduction Working Group issued a final report to the Governor in the fall of 2018 with five (5) recommendations for substantive legislative reform, which are to:

(A) Establish an expedited procedure for occupational licensing entities to collectively submit administrative rules that are responsive to new legislation;

(B) Extend Acts 2017, No. 781, to allow repeal of subsections of rules;

(C) Establish provisions to allow certain agencies to consider occupational relevance with regard to criminal background issues;

(D) Authorize occupational licensing entities to identify types of individuals or entities that may be issued temporary or provisional licenses; and

(E) Establish a systematic process for review of:

(i) New occupational licensure and occupational licensing entities; and

(ii) Existing occupational licensure and occupational licensing entities.

(b) It is the intent of the General Assembly to authorize occupational licensing entities to identify types of individuals or entities that may be issued temporary or provisional licenses.

SECTION 3. Arkansas Code Title 17, Chapter 1, Subchapter 1, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

17-1-108. Expedited temporary and provisional licensure.

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Individual" means a natural person, firm, association, partnership, corporation, or other entity that may hold an occupational licensure;

(2) "Occupational licensing entity" means an office, board,
commission, department, council, bureau, or other agency of state government having authority to license, certify, register, permit, or otherwise authorize an individual to engage in a particular occupation or profession; and

(3) "Occupational licensure" means a license, certificate, registration, permit, or other form of authorization required by law or rule that is required for an individual to engage in a particular occupation or profession.

(b) An occupational licensing entity shall by rule adopt the least restrictive requirements for occupational licensure for an individual who:

1. Demonstrates that he or she:
   1. Holds an occupational licensure that is substantially similar to practice in the field of his or her occupation or profession in another state, territory, or district of the United States;
   2. Holds his or her occupational licensure in good standing;
   3. Has not had his or her occupational licensure revoked for:
      1. An act of bad faith; or
      2. A violation of law, rule, or ethics;
   4. Is not holding a suspended or probationary occupational licensure in any state, territory, or district of the United States; and
   5. Is sufficiently competent in his or her field; and

2. Pays any occupational licensure fee required by law or rule.

(c)(1)(A) An occupational licensing entity shall comply with the requirements under subsection (b) of this section by adopting the least restrictive rule that allows for reciprocity or licensure by endorsement.

(B) The rule adopted under subdivision (c)(1)(A) of this section shall provide the procedure by which an occupational licensing entity shall grant a temporary and provisional occupational licensure for ninety (90) days or longer to an individual under subsection (b) of this section if presented with evidence of a current and active occupational licensure that is substantially similar to practice in the field of his or her occupation or profession in another state, territory, or district of the United States.

(2) If a state, territory, or district of the United States does
not require occupational licensure for a profession that requires
occupational licensure in this state, an occupational licensing entity shall
adopt a rule that is least restrictive to permit an individual who is
sufficiently competent in his or her field to obtain occupational licensure
for that occupation or profession in this state.

(3) The occupational licensing entity may require additional
state-specific education for an individual with an occupational licensure in
another state, territory, or district of the United States that does not
offer reciprocity similar to reciprocity under this section to individuals
with occupational licensure in this state.

(d)(1) Except as provided under subdivision (d)(2) of this section, an
occupational licensing entity shall not require an individual who meets the
requirements of subsection (b) of this section to participate in the
apprenticeship, education, or training required as a prerequisite to
occupational licensure of a new professional in the field.

(2) The occupational licensing entity may require the individual
to participate in continuing education or training if the continuing
education or training is required for all professionals in the field to
maintain the occupational licensure.

(e) If a criminal background check is required of an applicant for an
initial occupational licensure or of a person currently holding an
occupational licensure, then the occupational licensing entity may require a
person seeking his or her occupational licensure under this section to meet
the same criminal background check requirements as the applicant for an
initial occupational licensure or as the person currently holding an
occupational licensure.

(f) The occupational licensing entity may require the individual
applying for occupational licensure under this section to meet any bonding,
financial statement, or insurance requirements that are applicable to all
applicants.

(g) This section shall not apply to:

(1) Reciprocity or license by endorsement provisions under §§
17-93-414, 17-97-306, 17-99-304, 17-100-304, and 17-103-302; or

(2) The occupational licensing entities that administer the
reciprocity provisions under subdivision (g)(1) of this section.

(h) An occupational licensing entity may enter into written agreements with similar occupational licensing entities of another state, territory, or district of the United States as necessary to assure for licensees in this state have comparable nonresident licensure opportunities as those opportunities available to nonresidents by occupational licensing entities in this state.

/s/Cozart

APPROVED: 3/12/19
State of Arkansas

As Engrossed: H2/4/19 S4/5/19

A Bill

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO PROMOTE, RECRUIT, AND RETAIN A HIGHLY
SKILLED WORKFORCE IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS; TO AMEND
THE LAW CONCERNING LICENSING, REGISTRATION, AND
CERTIFICATION FOR CERTAIN PROFESSIONS; TO ESTABLISH A
SYSTEM OF ENDORSEMENT, RECOGNITION, AND RECIPROCITY
FOR LICENSING, REGISTRATION, AND CERTIFICATION FOR
CERTAIN PROFESSIONS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE LAW CONCERNING LICENSING,
REGISTRATION, AND CERTIFICATION FOR
CERTAIN PROFESSIONS; AND TO ESTABLISH A
SYSTEM OF ENDORSEMENT, RECOGNITION, AND
RECIPROCITY FOR LICENSING.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-1-107 is amended to read as follows:
(a)(1) It is not the intent of the General Assembly to cause the
licensing entity to engage in simple comparisons of the required hours of
training and other personal qualifications under Arkansas's occupational
licensing statutes with those qualifications required in the state where the
person is credentialed.

(2) It is the intent of the General Assembly to ensure that a
person may be credentialed to work in Arkansas if he or she generally
demonstrates the skills and ethics required by state law based on the person’s experience and credentials in another state.

(b)(a) An occupational licensing entity shall by rule adopt reduced requirements for reinstatement of a license, registration, permit, or certification for a person who:

(1) Demonstrates that he or she:

(A) Was previously licensed, registered, permitted, or certified to practice in the field of his or her profession at any time in this state;

(B) Held his or her license, registration, permit, or certification in good standing at the time of licensing, registration, permitting, or certification;

(C) Did not have his or her license, registration, permit, or certification revoked for:

(i) An act of bad faith; or

(ii) A violation of law, rule, or ethics;

(D) Is not holding a suspended or probationary license, registration, permit, or certification in any state; and

(E) Is sufficiently competent in his or her field; and

(2) Pays any reinstatement fee required by law.

(b) The occupational licensing entity may require that sufficient competency in a particular field be demonstrated by:

(1) Proficiency testing;

(2) Letters of recommendation; or

(3) Both proficiency testing and letters of recommendation.

(c) Except as provided under subdivision (e)(2)(b) of this section, the occupational licensing entity shall not require a person who meets the requirements of subsection (a) of this section to participate in the apprenticeship, education, or training required as a prerequisite to licensing, registration, permitting, or certification of a new professional in the field.

(2) The occupational licensing entity may require the person to participate in continuing education or training if the continuing education or training is required for all professionals in the field to maintain the license, registration, permit, or certification.

(d) A person shall not be required to comply with requirements
under this section to obtain reinstatement of his or her license,
registration, permit, or certification if the person meets the requirements
for reciprocity.

(f)(e) If a criminal background check is required of an applicant for
an original license, registration, permit, or certification, or of a person
currently holding a license, registration, permit, or certification, then the
occupational licensing entity may require a person seeking reinstatement
under this section to meet the same criminal background check requirements as
the applicant for an original license, registration, permit, or
certification, or as the person currently holding a license, registration,
permit, or certification.

(g)(f)(l) As used in this section, "occupational licensing entity"
means an agency, office, council, bureau, board, commission, department,
committee, or other authority of the government of the State of Arkansas,
whether within or subject to review by another agency, except the General
Assembly, the courts, and the Governor, that has the duty to license,
register, permit, certify, or otherwise approve a person to work in a
particular field or industry.

(2) As used in subdivision (f)(l) of this section "agency"
does not include the General Assembly, the courts, or the Governor.

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-1-108, as added by Acts 2019, No. 426,
is amended to read as follows:

17-1-108. Expedited temporary and provisional licensure - Legislative
intent.

(a)(l) It is the intent of the General Assembly to ensure that an
individual may be credentialed to work in Arkansas if he or she generally
demonstrates the skills and ethics required by state law based on the
individual's experience and credentials in another state.

(2) It is not the intent of the General Assembly to cause the
licensing entity to engage in simple comparisons of the required hours of
training and other personal qualifications under Arkansas's occupational
licensing statutes with those qualifications required in the state where the
individual is credentialed.

(a)(b) As used in this section:

(1) "Individual" means a natural person, firm, association,
partnership, corporation, or other entity that may hold an occupational
license;

(2) "Occupational licensing entity" means an office, board,
commission, committee, department, council, bureau, or other agency of state
government having authority to license, certify, register, permit, or
otherwise authorize an individual to engage in a particular occupation or
profession; and

(3) "Occupational licensure" means a license, certificate,
registration, permit, or other form of authorization required by law or rule
that is required for an individual to engage in a particular occupation or
profession.

(b)(c) An occupational licensing entity shall by rule adopt the least
restrictive requirements for occupational licensure for an individual who:

(1) Demonstrates that he or she:

(A) Holds an occupational licensure that is substantially
similar to practice in the field of his or her occupation or profession in
another state, territory, or district of the United States;

(B) Holds his or her occupational licensure in good
standing;

(C) Has not had his or her occupational licensure revoked
for:

(i) An act of bad faith; or

(ii) A violation of law, rule, or ethics;

(D) Is not holding a suspended or probationary
occupational licensure in any state, territory, or district of the United
States; and

(E) Is sufficiently competent in his or her field; and

(2) Pays any occupational licensure fee required by law or rule.

(e)(1)(A)(d)(1)(A) An occupational licensing entity shall comply with
the requirements under subsection (b)(c) of this section by adopting the
least restrictive rule that allows for reciprocity or licensure by
endorsement.

(B) The rule adopted under subdivision (e)(1)(A)(d)(1)(A)
of this section shall provide the procedure by which an occupational
licensing entity shall grant a temporary and provisional occupational
licensure for ninety (90) days or longer to an individual under subsection
(b)(c) of this section if presented with evidence of a current and active
occupational licensure that is substantially similar to practice in the field
of his or her occupation or profession in another state, territory, or
district of the United States.

(2) If a state, territory, or district of the United States does
not require occupational licensure for a profession that requires
occupational licensure in this state, an occupational licensing entity shall
adopt a rule that is least restrictive to permit an individual who is
sufficiently competent in his or her field to obtain occupational licensure
for that occupation or profession in this state.

(3) The occupational licensing entity may require additional
state-specific education for an individual with an occupational licensure in
another state, territory, or district of the United States that does not
offer reciprocity similar to reciprocity under this section to individuals
with occupational licensure in this state.

(d)(1)(e) Except as provided under subdivision (d)(1)(e)(2) of this
section, an occupational licensing entity shall not require an individual who
meets the requirements of subsection (b)(c) of this section to participate in
the apprenticeship, education, or training required as a prerequisite to
occupational licensure of a new professional in the field.

(2) The occupational licensing entity may require the individual
to participate in continuing education or training if the continuing
education or training is required for all professionals in the field to
maintain the occupational licensure.

(e)(f) If a criminal background check is required of an applicant for
an initial occupational licensure or of a person currently
holding an occupational licensure, then the occupational licensing entity may
require a person seeking his or her occupational licensure
under this section to meet the same criminal background check requirements as
the applicant for an initial occupational licensure or as the person
currently holding an occupational licensure.

(g) The occupational licensing entity may require the individual
applying for occupational licensure under this section to meet any bonding,
financial statement, or insurance requirements that are applicable to all
applicants.

(h) This section shall not apply to:

(2) The occupational licensing entities that administer the reciprocity provisions under subdivision (e) of this section.

(h)(1) An occupational licensing entity may enter into written agreements with similar occupational licensing entities of another state, territory, or district of the United States as necessary to assure that licensees in this state have comparable nonresident licensure opportunities as those opportunities available to nonresidents by occupational licensing entities in this state.

/s/Dotson

APPROVED: 4/15/19