## **Occupational Boards and Licensing**

#### See full summary documents for additional detail

H308 - Regulatory Reform Act of 2020.

Sec. 1: North Carolina On-Site Wastewater Contractors and Inspectors Certification Board/Grant of Authority to Hold Real Property. (SL 2020-74)

Section 1 of S.L. 2020-74 authorizes the North Carolina On-Site Wastewater Contractors and Inspectors Certification Board to acquire, hold, convey, rent, encumber, alienate, and otherwise deal with real property in the same manner as a private person or corporation, subject only to the approval of the Governor and Council of State.

This section became effective July 1, 2020.

H308 - Regulatory Reform Act of 2020.

Sec. 1A: Establish a Maximum Fee for the Authorized On-Site Wastewater Evaluator Program. (SL 2020-74)

Section 1A of S.L. 2020-74 authorizes the North Carolina On-Site Wastewater Contractors and Inspectors Certification Board to establish an application fee for an authorized on-site wastewater evaluator in an amount not to exceed \$300.

This section became effective July 1, 2020.

H308 - Regulatory Reform Act of 2020. Sec. 19: Library Statute Changes. (SL 2020-74)

Section 19 of S.L. 2020-74 does the following:

- Expands the dean's seat on the Public Librarian Certification Commission to include "department chair, program director, or equivalent."
- Eliminates the requirement for standing committees within the State Library Commission, and instead give the authority to create four-person committees to the Chair of the State Library Commission with the approval of the Library Commission.
- Repeals the requirement that State publications that are of historical or enduring value and importance to the citizens of North Carolina must be printed on alkaline (acid-free) paper.

This section became effective July 1, 2020.

## H308 - Regulatory Reform Act of 2020.

# Sec. 24: Allow Self-Insurers to Make Payments for an Initial Assessment Over a Period. (SL 2020-74)

Section 24 of S.L. 2020-74 allows an individual self-insurer upon receiving its license from the North Carolina Commission of Insurance to pay its required initial assessment over a period as determined by the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Self-Insurance Security Association. Under prior law, an initial assessment had to be paid upon the receipt of an initial license by an individual self-insurer.

This section became effective July 1, 2020.

## H308 - Regulatory Reform Act of 2020.

## Sec. 28: Architectural License Exception for Small Projects. (SL 2020-74)

Section 28 of S.L. 2020-74 allows commercial architectural projects with a value of \$200,000 or an area of less than 3,000 square feet to be completed without an architectural license.

This section became effective July 1, 2020.

## H308 - Regulatory Reform Act of 2020.

## Sec. 29: North Carolina Board of Architecture Modifications. (SL 2020-74)

Section 29 of S.L. 2020-74 makes technical changes to statutes relating to the North Carolina Board of Architecture and other changes to the educational criteria necessary to sit for the architect licensure exam.

This section became effective July 1, 2020.

## H612 - Department of Social Services Review of Procedures/Criminal History/Office of Administrative Hearings. (Ratified)

House Bill 612 would have required the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Social Services to identify any publications, policies, and procedures that might be considered rules under Chapter 150B of the General Statutes. Any publications, policies, and procedures identified as rules would have to have been adopted through the rule-making process, or they would have become void on July 1, 2022. Licensing Boards and state licensing agencies would not have been permitted to require certain criminal background information as a precondition of granting a license. Finally, the bill would have clarified the procedures for when rules that receive objections become effective. House Bill 612 was ratified on June 26, 2020, and vetoed on July 2, 2020.

## H1053 - PED/Military OL & Audiology Interstate Compct. (SL 2020-87)

S.L. 2020-87 implements recommendations from the Program Evaluation Division regarding ways to improve the occupational licensing process for military-trained applicants and military spouses; and makes North Carolina a member of the Interstate Compact for Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology.

Part I of this act becomes effective December 1, 2020, and applies to applications for licensure received on or after that date. Part II of this act becomes effective when at least 10 states have enacted the Interstate Compact for Audiology and Speech Pathology. Part III of this act became effective July 2, 2020.

S704 - COVID-19 Recovery Act. Sec. 4.16: New Attorneys' Oath. (SL 2020-3)

Sec. 4.16 of S.L. 2020-3, authorizes a justice or judge of the General Court of Justice to remotely administer the oaths prescribed for attorneys using a form of live video conferencing technology provided the attorney taking the oath is personally known to the justice or judge or the attorney provides satisfactory evidence of identity.

This section became effective May 4, 2020, and expires December 1, 2020.