





## THE FLORIDA DEREGATHON

On January 18, 2019, Governor Ron DeSantis invited members of Florida's Professional Licensing Boards to join him, First Lady DeSantis, Lt. Governor Nuñez, and Department of Business and Professional Regulation Secretary Halsey Beshears for the Florida Deregathon. The one-day event, hosted January 31, 2019, on the campus of Valencia College, convened more than 90 members of Florida's 17 professional licensing boards, including:

- Board of Accountancy
- Board of Architecture and Interior Design
- Board of Auctioneers
- Barber's Board
- Building Code Administrators and Inspectors Board
- Regulatory Council of Community Assoc. Mgrs.
- Construction Industry Licensing Board
- Board of Cosmetology
- Electrical Contractors' Licensing Board
- Board of Employee Leasing Companies
- Florida Board of Professional Engineers
- Board of Professional Geologists
- Board of Landscape Architecture
- Board of Pilot Commissioners
- Florida Real Estate Appraisal Board
- Florida Real Estate Commission
- Board of Veterinary Medicine

Acting in an advisory capacity, the board members participating in the Florida Deregathon met to discuss, debate, identify, and recommend substantive regulations to be targeted for elimination or modification. The recommendations presented by each professional licensing board at the conclusion of the Florida Deregathon are summarized in the enclosed report.



## **BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY**

*Presented by Tracy Keegan, Chair*

- Statutorily permit incorporation by reference of national professional standards on an evergreen basis.
- Remove restrictions on frequency of examination testing for licensure.
- Delete statutory requirement for temporary firm permits.
- Extend the 36-month expiration period for the validity of examination scores.
- Delete outdated definitions regarding assembled financial statements.
- Reduce continuing professional education hours for reactivation of inactive CPA license.
- Reduce the accounting and auditing continuing professional education requirement for renewal and licensure.

## **BOARD OF ARCHITECTURE AND INTERIOR DESIGN**

*Presented by Aida Bao-Garciga, Chair*

- Eliminate the certificate of authorization (business license) requirement for both professions.
- Eliminate the 2-hour Florida Building Code advanced course requirement for architecture and interior design license renewal.
- Broaden and explore additional avenues for initial interior design licensure.
- Clarify authentication of electronic signature and seal for both professions.
- Reduce advertising requirements for both professions.
- Explore fee reductions for initial licensure and renewals for both professions.
- Modernize the responsible supervisory control requirements for both professions to facilitate efficient and streamlined practices.

## **BOARD OF AUCTIONEERS**

*Presented by Ransom Reed Hartman, Vice Chair*

- Increase the number of apprentices eligible to be sponsored at one time from 3 to 6 per auctioneer.
- Reduce the passing score on the auctioneer exam from 75% to 70%.
- Eliminate the auctioneer business license.
- Decrease the apprenticeship period from one year to 6 months.
- Evaluate cost reduction options within the license fee structure.

## **BARBERS' BOARD**

*Presented by Michelino Nibaldi, Vice Chair*

- Allow evaluation of barber talent to be administered by schools of barbering.
- Authorize endorsement of licensure for applicants from states which require fewer education hours than Florida.
- Create an apprenticeship program with hands-on learning under the supervision of a Master Barber.
- Reduce pre-licensure training for a Restricted Barber License from 1200 hours to 800 hours.
- Introduce barbering programs to technical and vocational schools.



## **BUILDING CODE ADMINISTRATORS & INSPECTORS BOARD**

*Presented by Bob McCormick, Chair*

- Reduce the number of years of practical experience required for licensure.
- Evaluate alternative options for computing and crediting time associated with overlapping experience earned within a job.
- Evaluate options for applying military experience toward licensure requirements.
- Modify existing internship program requirements to revise the International Code Council examination to be required during or later in the internship program period.
- Create internship program for residential inspectors and plans examiners.
- Create a provisional license for residential plans examiners.
- Evaluate the provisional license term for possible extension.
- Review continuing education requirements for licensure.

## **REGULATORY COUNCIL OF COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MANAGERS**

*Presented by Angela Phillips, Chair*

- Reconfigure educational requirements for initial licensure and license renewal to eliminate or minimize requirements that are not essential to communities served by regulated license holders. Focus educational requirements on accounting and financial reporting functions that specifically relate to the viability of community associations.
- Eliminate pre-licensure education requirements for qualifying 4-year degree applicants.
- Evaluate educational requirements of other professional licenses to identify other license types that may qualify for exemption from the pre-licensure education requirements.
- Explore exam requirements to emphasize specific areas of critical knowledge for exams.

## **CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY LICENSING BOARD**

*Presented by Keith Lawson II, Chair*

- Allow Florida graduates of a 4-year building construction degree program to apply for Division I licensure without a certified examination. Determine additional degrees that could qualify applicants for exemption from examination for all license types.
- Allow Division II contractors to subcontract work as long as the Division II contractor supervises the subcontractors (enable elimination of swimming pool subcontractor specialty licenses).
- Refine all contractor application requirements to reduce experience requirements while maintaining financial requirements.
- Reduce cost of exam preparation costs by eliminating some of the required textbooks for the licensing exam. Provide online sources or reduce required books.
- Revise licensure applications to remove unnecessary questions.
- Reduce the number of members on the Construction Industry Licensing Board.
- Evaluate license reciprocity agreements with other states.

## **BOARD OF COSMETOLOGY**

*Presented by Rhonda Griffis, Chair*

- Reduce the required continuing education from 16 hours to 10 hours every two years.
- Grant reciprocity to all individuals holding a current active license in another state.
- Repeal the requirement for HIV/AIDS course certification for initial licensure.



## **ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS' LICENSING BOARD**

*Presented by Douglas Bassett, Chair*

- Reopen grandfathering of registered contractors to certified status and update grandfathering requirements.
- Review endorsement requirements from other states for consideration for Florida.
- Reconsider academic and practical training experience requirements for licensure.
- Revise initial training requirements for Burglar Alarm/Fire Alarm System Agents.

## **BOARD OF EMPLOYEE LEASING COMPANIES**

*Presented by Rick Kiracofe, Chair*

- Reduce initial licensure fees.
- Reduce initial requirements for a de minimus company (less than 50 employees).
- Reduce filing burdens by requiring quarterly filings in only the first and third quarters and **workers' compensation forms** only in the second and fourth quarters.
- Identify minor offenses that may be eligible for 30-day notice of violation period before regulatory action is initiated on the license.

## **FLORIDA BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS**

*Presented by Kenneth Todd, PE, Chair*

- Revise certificate of authorization requirements to allow business registrations with no fee or application.
- Create a reinstatement process for null/void licenses rather than requiring a new license application.
- Review rules for approving continuing education providers and allowing continuing education from other states.
- Encourage legislation that enhances mobility of licenses between states such as early examination and additional education pathways.

## **BOARD OF PROFESSIONAL GEOLOGISTS**

*Presented by Stanley Warden, Vice Chair*

- Evaluate deregulation options related to:
  - license fee structure; and
  - license renewal period (i.e., extending renewal cycle from two to four years).
- Lessen requirements pertaining to:
  - certificate of authorization and exemptions.
- Review continuing education.

## **BOARD OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE**

*Presented by Joseph Delate, Chair*

- Review fees comprehensively and identify fee reductions.
- Request cost reduction for National Exam by Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards.
- Accept nationally approved courses for continuing education (Landscape Architecture Continuing Education System)
- Mandate statewide standards for signing and sealing of plans that are the same for all professions in all jurisdictions.
- Enhance board recognition of candidates who attain professional licensure in Florida.





## **BOARD OF PILOT COMMISSIONERS**

*Presented by Carolyn Kurtz, Chair*

- Allow qualified mariners to take the deputy pilot examination to increase accessibility and open the pathway to pilotage to more qualified candidates.
- Decrease the scope of the deputy pilot examination in the Port of Key West.
- Streamline the deputy pilot examination by automating the grading process, thereby decreasing costs for candidates and the state.
- Reevaluate the re-examination policy that prevents candidates from taking the examination within three years after two failed attempts.
- Streamline the ratemaking process by reevaluating the costs of providing required financial information and costs for all parties involved in ratemaking processes.
- Bring state regulations in line with federal regulations such as the elimination of the radar certificate for license maintenance.

## **FLORIDA REAL ESTATE APPRAISAL BOARD**

*Presented by Michael Roy, Chair*

- Improve communication with the Florida Legislature to ensure state statutes comply with the requirements of The Appraisal Foundation.
- Improve communication with the appraiser licensees regarding state requirements and the requirements of The Appraisal Foundation.
- Coordinate with The Appraisal Foundation to create a consistent electronic log sheet for appraisers to track work experience necessary for filing with the Board.
- Increase availability of trainee positions in coordination with appraisal management companies.
- Explore additional board meeting locations to attract more attendance by licensees.
- Streamline the certification of educational credits and increase the number of educational offerings for licensees.

## **FLORIDA REAL ESTATE COMMISSION**

*Presented by Patricia Fitzgerald, Chair*

- Reduce fees for initial licensure and license renewal.

## **BOARD OF VETERINARY MEDICINE**

*Presented by Dr. Robert Leonard Jr., Chair*

- Streamline redundant inspections by multiple state and local entities.
- Add Program for the Assessment of Veterinary Education Equivalence as an accepted program for licensure of foreign graduates.
- Allow endorsement applicants from other states to forego two state examinations and be subject only to a 2-hour Florida laws and rules course requirement.
- Reduce the penalty for late reporting of discipline or criminal history to a notice of non-compliance if the violation is not related to the practice.
- Expand the services offered by limited service veterinary clinics to include micro-chipping in addition to low-cost vaccination services.