

1 TO THE HONORABLE SENATE:

2 The Committee on Government Operations to which was referred House
3 Bill No. 606 entitled “An act relating to professional licensure and immigration
4 status” respectfully reports that it has considered the same and recommends
5 that the Senate propose to the House that the bill be amended by striking out all
6 after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 Sec. 1. PURPOSE

8 (a) The purpose of this act is to amend the laws of Vermont to allow any
9 individual who meets the standards required by the State to obtain a
10 professional or occupational license or certification, regardless of that
11 individual’s immigration status.

12 (b) The General Assembly acts pursuant to the authority provided in
13 section 411 of the federal Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity
14 Reconciliation Act of 1996, Pub. L. No. 104–193, Title IV, § 411, codified at
15 8 U.S.C. § 1621(d), as such section existed on January 1, 2024.

16 (c) Nothing in this act shall be construed to grant eligibility for any public
17 benefits, as defined in 8 U.S.C. § 1621(c), other than obtaining a professional
18 license.

19 Sec. 2. 3 V.S.A. § 139 is added to read:

20 § 139. IMMIGRATION STATUS

1 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, an applicant shall
2 not be denied any professional license or certification enumerated in this title
3 or Titles 16, 20, or 26 of the Vermont Statutes Annotated on the basis of the
4 applicant’s citizenship status or immigration status or lack thereof.

5 (b) If an applicant is required by State law to provide a Social Security
6 number for the purpose of obtaining or maintaining a professional license or
7 certification under this title or Titles 16, 20, or 26 of the Vermont Statutes
8 Annotated, the applicant may provide a federal employer identification
9 number, an individual taxpayer identification number, or a Social Security
10 number; provided, however, that an applicant shall provide a Social Security
11 number if a federal law or an interstate compact of which the State is a member
12 requires that an applicant provide a Social Security number to obtain or
13 maintain a professional license.

14 Sec. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE

15 This act shall take effect on September 1, 2024.

16
17
18 (Committee vote: _____)

19 _____

20 Senator _____

21 FOR THE COMMITTEE