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**Act No. 144 (H.684). Professions and occupations; Office of Professional Regulation; miscellaneous**

**An act relating to professions and occupations regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation**

This act amends statutes relating to professional regulation by the Secretary of State's Office of Professional Regulation. Secs. 1–10 are in regard to the manner in which the Office regulates the approximately 50 professions and occupations over which it has oversight, including designating the Secretary as the overall adopting authority for rules and requiring uniform standards for license renewals and continuing education.

The remainder of the act amends statutes relating to specific professions. Substantive changes include:

- converting the barbering and cosmetology professions and the funeral services professions from a board model to an advisor model (Secs. 2, 12, 13, 15–17, and 26);
- eliminating the requirement that advanced practice registered nurses submit practice guidelines to the Board of Nursing and requiring the Board and the Office to assess and report on the costs and benefits of participating in nursing licensure compacts (Secs. 18 and 19);
- amending miscellaneous provisions relating to the practice of pharmacy and creating a new Executive Officer of Pharmacy position within the Office (Secs. 20 and 21);
- increasing the Board of Private Investigative and Security Services' rulemaking authority in regard to the minimum standards and qualifications of private investigators and security guards and eliminating the temporary registration of persons employed by private investigative or security guard agencies (Sec. 24); and
- increasing the Board of Allied Mental Health Practitioners' rulemaking authority in regard to the licensing and renewal of clinical mental health counselors (Sec. 25).

Multiple effective dates, beginning on May 21, 2018