

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Government Operations to which was referred House
3 Bill No. 104 entitled “An act relating to professions and occupations regulated
4 by the Office of Professional Regulation” respectfully reports that it has
5 considered the same and recommends that the bill be amended by striking out
6 all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu thereof the following:

7 * * * Office of Professional Regulation * * *

8 Sec. 1. 3 V.S.A. § 121 is amended to read:

9 § 121. DEFINITIONS

10 As used in this subchapter:

11 (1) “Director” means the Director of the Office of Professional
12 Regulation.

13 (2) “Licensing board” or “board” refers to the boards, commissions, and
14 professions listed in section 122 of this ~~title~~ subchapter and, in the case of
15 disciplinary matters or denials of licensure, either an administrative law officer
16 appointed under subsection 129(j) of this ~~title~~ subchapter or the Director in
17 advisor professions. Notwithstanding statutory language to the contrary, this
18 subchapter shall apply to all those boards.

19 (3)(A) “License” includes any certification or registration or a permit,
20 commission, or other official authorization to undertake a regulated activity.

1 (B) “Licensee” includes ~~registrants and holders of certificates or~~
2 ~~permits~~ any person to whom a license has been issued by a board or the
3 Director.

4 (4) “Office” means the Office of Professional Regulation.

5 Sec. 2. 3 V.S.A. § 122 is amended to read:

6 § 122. OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

7 The Office of Professional Regulation is created within the Office of the
8 Secretary of State. The Office shall have a director who shall be appointed by
9 the Secretary of State and shall be an exempt employee. The following boards
10 or professions are attached to the Office of Professional Regulation:

11 * * *

12 (17) ~~Board of~~ Radiologic Technology

13 * * *

14 (29) ~~Board of~~ Real Estate Appraisers

15 * * *

16 (48) Notaries Public

17 Sec. 3. 3 V.S.A. § 127 is amended to read:

18 § 127. UNAUTHORIZED PRACTICE

19 (a) When the Office receives a complaint of unauthorized practice, the
20 Director shall refer the complaint to Office investigators and prosecutors.

1 (b)(1) A person practicing a regulated profession without authority or an
2 employer permitting such practice may, upon the complaint of the Attorney
3 General or a State's Attorney or an attorney assigned by the Office of
4 Professional Regulation, be enjoined therefrom by the Superior Court where
5 the violation occurred or the Washington County Superior Court and may be
6 assessed a civil penalty of not more than ~~\$1,000.00~~ \$5,000.00.

7 (2)(A) The Attorney General or an attorney assigned by the Office of
8 Professional Regulation may elect to bring an action seeking only a civil
9 penalty of not more than ~~\$1,000.00~~ \$2,500.00 for practicing or permitting the
10 practice of a regulated profession without authority before the board having
11 regulatory authority over the profession or before an administrative law officer.

12 (B) Hearings shall be conducted in the same manner as disciplinary
13 hearings.

14 (3)(A) A civil penalty imposed by a board or administrative law officer
15 under this subsection (b) shall be deposited in the Professional Regulatory Fee
16 Fund established in section 124 of this chapter for the purpose of providing
17 education and training for board members and advisor appointees.

18 (B) The Director shall detail in the annual report receipts and
19 expenses from these civil penalties.

20 (c) In addition to other provisions of law, unauthorized practice shall be
21 punishable by a fine of not more than \$5,000.00 or imprisonment for not more

1 than one year, or both. Prosecution may occur upon the complaint of the
2 Attorney General or a State's Attorney or an attorney assigned by the Office of
3 Professional Regulation under this section and shall not act as a bar to civil or
4 administrative proceedings involving the same conduct.

5 * * *

6 Sec. 4. 3 V.S.A. § 129a is amended to read:

7 § 129a. UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

8 (a) In addition to any other provision of law, the following conduct by a
9 licensee constitutes unprofessional conduct. When that conduct is by an
10 applicant or person who later becomes an applicant, it may constitute grounds
11 for denial of a license or other disciplinary action. Any one of the following
12 items or any combination of items, whether the conduct at issue was
13 committed within or outside the State, shall constitute unprofessional conduct:

14 * * *

15 (26) Sexually harassing or exploiting a patient, client, or consumer, or
16 doing so to a coworker in a manner that impacts professional services; failing
17 to maintain professional boundaries; or violating a patient, client, or
18 consumer's reasonable expectation of privacy.

19 * * *

20 (d)(1) After hearing, and upon a finding of unprofessional conduct, a board
21 or an administrative law officer may take disciplinary action against a licensee

1 or applicant, including imposing an administrative penalty not to exceed
2 ~~\$1,000.00~~ \$5,000.00 for each unprofessional conduct violation.

3 (2)(A) Any money received under this subsection shall be deposited in
4 the Professional Regulatory Fee Fund established in section 124 of this ~~title~~
5 chapter for the purpose of providing education and training for board members
6 and advisor appointees.

7 (B) The Director shall detail in the annual report receipts and
8 expenses from money received under this subsection.

9 * * *

10 Sec. 5. 3 V.S.A. § 129b is amended to read:

11 § 129b. BOARD MEMBER AND ADVISOR APPOINTMENTS

12 * * *

13 (g) For advisor professions, ~~advisors~~:

14 (1) Advisors shall be appointed by the Secretary of State and shall serve
15 at the pleasure of the Secretary of State. Advisor appointments shall be subject
16 to the same conditions as those for board members under this section.

17 (2) The Office shall warn and conduct an open meeting including
18 advisors, program staff, and interested members of the public:

19 (A) at least once per year for each profession with 500 or fewer
20 active licensees; and

1 (B) at least twice per year for each profession with more than 500
2 active licensees.

3 Sec. 6. 3 V.S.A. § 135 is amended to read:

4 § 135. UNIFORM STANDARD FOR RENEWAL FOLLOWING
5 EXTENDED ABSENCE

6 (a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, when an
7 applicant seeks to renew an expired or lapsed license after fewer than five
8 years of absence from practice, readiness to practice shall be inferred from
9 completion of any continuing education that would have been required if the
10 applicant had maintained continuous licensure, or by any less burdensome
11 showing set forth in administrative rules specific to the profession or permitted
12 by the Director.

13 * * *

14 Sec. 7. PROFESSIONAL REGULATION; ANALYSIS OF STATE
15 REGULATORY STRUCTURES

16 (a) Findings.

17 (1) The General Assembly finds that multiple State agencies regulate a
18 variety of professions and occupations, resulting in professional regulatory
19 structures that vary throughout the State.

20 (2) The General Assembly further finds that the State should review
21 whether transferring the regulation of certain professions and occupations to a

1 different State agency would enhance the effectiveness of those professional
2 regulatory structures, including by improving public protection and customer
3 service, reducing unnecessary barriers to licensure, and increasing efficiencies
4 in the staffing, information technology, and other necessary costs associated
5 with professional regulation.

6 (b) Office of Professional Regulation and other specified agencies; analysis
7 and report.

8 (1) The Office of Professional Regulation and the Agency of Education,
9 the Agency of Human Services, the Agency of Natural Resources, the
10 Department of Public Safety, and the Department of Health shall collaborate in
11 analyzing the professions and occupations that each of those agencies regulate
12 in order to determine whether the effectiveness of those professional regulatory
13 structures, including the elements of effectiveness described in subdivision
14 (a)(2) of this section, would be enhanced by transferring an agency's
15 professional regulation to a different agency.

16 (2) In conducting their analysis, the agencies shall consider the
17 professional regulation reports and other information gathered as a result of
18 2016 Acts and Resolves No. 156, Secs. 20 and 21.

19 (3) The Office of Professional Regulation, as the State agency primarily
20 focused on professional licensing administration and enforcement, shall lead
21 this collaboration among all the agencies named in subdivision (1) of this

1 subsection, but is encouraged to seek any available grants from outside
2 resources that may enable the agencies to contract with an independent entity
3 to conduct this analysis.

4 (4) On or before January 15, 2020, the independent entity or, if a
5 contract with such an entity was not executed, the Office of Professional
6 Regulation shall report to the House Committees on Government Operations,
7 on Education, on Human Services, on Health, on Natural Resources, Fish, and
8 Wildlife, and on Commerce and Economic Development and the Senate
9 Committees on Government Operations, on Education, on Health and Welfare,
10 on Natural Resources and Energy, and on Economic Development, Housing
11 and General Affairs with its findings and any recommendations for legislative
12 action.

13 Sec. 8. CREATION OF POSITION WITHIN THE OFFICE OF
14 PROFESSIONAL REGULATION; LICENSING

15 (a) There is created within the Secretary of State's Office of Professional
16 Regulation one new permanent classified Licensing Administrator position.

17 (b) Any funding necessary to support the position created in subsection (a)
18 of this section shall be derived from the Office's Professional Regulatory Fee
19 Fund, with no General Fund Dollars.

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* * * Accountants * * *

Sec. 9. 26 V.S.A. chapter 1 is amended to read:

CHAPTER 1. ACCOUNTANTS

Subchapter 1. General Provisions

* * *

§ 17. PENALTY

Any person who violates any provision of section 14 of this ~~title~~ chapter shall be subject to the penalties set forth in 3 V.S.A. § 127(e).

* * *

Subchapter 3. Licenses

* * *

§ 74a. FOREIGN REGISTRATION

~~(a) A foreign firm licensed or registered in another country seeking to practice temporarily in the state shall register with the board and pay the required fee. The board shall adopt rules prescribing the procedure to be followed in carrying out the registrations. Registrations under this section shall expire three months after issuance. "Firm" is as defined in subdivision 13(5) of this title.~~

~~(b) A foreign firm providing public accounting services in the state of Vermont shall be registered and obtain a firm registration number.~~

1 ~~(e) An accountant qualified for the practice of public accountancy in a~~
2 ~~foreign country may:~~

3 ~~(1) use a title granted by that country, together with any suitable~~
4 ~~translation into English of that title, and the name of that country;~~

5 ~~(2) temporarily practice public accounting after registering with the~~
6 ~~board under section 74a of this title. [Repealed.]~~

7 * * *

8 § 81. OWNERSHIP OF ACCOUNTANT’S WORKING PAPERS

9 * * *

10 (d) An accountant or accountancy firm shall have in place a plan for
11 responsible disposition of client records in case of unexpected incapacity or
12 firm dissolution.

13 * * *

14 * * * Dental Hygienists * * *

15 Sec. 10. 26 V.S.A. chapter 12 is amended to read:

16 CHAPTER 12. DENTISTS, DENTAL THERAPISTS,
17 DENTAL HYGIENISTS, AND DENTAL ASSISTANTS

18 * * *

19 Subchapter 2. Board of Dental Examiners

20 * * *

1 § 582. AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD

2 In addition to any other provisions of law, the ~~board~~ Board shall have the
3 authority to:

4 * * *

5 (3) adopt rules pursuant to the Vermont Administrative Procedure Act
6 ~~as set forth in 3 V.S.A. chapter 25:~~

7 * * *

8 (H) setting guidelines for general supervision of dental hygienists
9 ~~with no less than three years of experience by dentists with no less than three~~
10 ~~years of experience to,~~ to be known as “public-health hygienists,” who may
11 ~~perform tasks in public or private schools or institutions~~ public-health settings
12 as set forth in section 624 of this chapter; and

13 * * *

14 Subchapter 4. Dental Hygienists

15 * * *

16 § 624. PRACTICE

17 (a) A dental hygienist may perform duties for which the dental hygienist
18 has been qualified by successful completion of the normal curriculum offered
19 by programs of dental hygiene accredited by the American Dental Association
20 or in continuing education courses approved by the Board. A dental hygienist

1 may perform tasks in the office of any licensed dentist consistent with the rules
2 adopted by the Board.

3 (b) ~~In public or private schools or institutions, a dental~~ A public-health
4 hygienist, who shall be a dental hygienist with no less fewer than three years of
5 experience, may perform tasks ~~under the general supervision of a licensed~~
6 ~~dentist with no less than three years of experience as prescribed in~~ out-of-
7 office settings, including residences, schools, nursing home and long-term care
8 facilities, clinics, hospitals, medical facilities, community health centers
9 licensed or approved by the Department of Health, Head Start programs, and
10 any other facilities or programs deemed appropriate by the Department of
11 Health in a manner consistent with guidelines adopted by the Board by rule.

12 * * *

13 * * * Nursing * * *

14 Sec. 11. 26 V.S.A. chapter 28 is amended to read:

15 CHAPTER 28. NURSING

16 Subchapter 1. General Provisions

17 * * *

1 § 1574. POWERS AND DUTIES

2 (a) In addition to the powers granted by 3 V.S.A. § 129, the Board shall:

3 * * *

4 (3) Adopt rules setting standards for approval of medication nursing
5 assistant and nursing education programs in Vermont, including all clinical
6 facilities. The Board may require reimbursement for actual and necessary
7 costs incurred for site surveys.

8 (4) ~~Adopt rules for medication nursing assistant education and~~
9 ~~competency evaluation programs and survey and approve those programs that~~
10 ~~meet the rules.~~ [Repealed.]

11 * * *

12 Subchapter 2. Advanced Practice Registered Nurses

13 * * *

14 § 1613. TRANSITION TO PRACTICE

15 (a)(1) ~~Graduates~~ An APRN with fewer than 24 months and 2,400 hours of
16 licensed active advanced nursing practice in an initial role and population
17 focus or fewer than 12 months and 1,600 hours for any additional role and
18 population focus shall have a formal agreement with a collaborating provider
19 as required by ~~board~~ Board rule.

1 (2) ~~APRNs~~ An APRN shall have and maintain signed and dated copies
2 of all required collaborative provider agreements ~~as part of the practice~~
3 ~~guidelines.~~

4 (3) An APRN required to practice with a collaborative provider
5 agreement may not engage in solo practice, except with regard to a role and
6 population focus in which the APRN has met the requirements of this
7 subsection.

8 (b) An APRN who satisfies the requirements to engage in solo practice
9 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section shall notify the ~~board~~ Board that these
10 requirements have been met.

11 * * *

12 * * * Optometrists * * *

13 Sec. 12. 26 V.S.A. chapter 30 is amended to read:

14 CHAPTER 30. OPTOMETRY

15 * * *

16 § 1703. DEFINITIONS

17 As used in this chapter:

18 * * *

1 (2) The “practice of optometry” means any one or combination of the
2 following practices:

3 (A) ~~The examination of~~ Examining the human eyes and visual system
4 for purposes of:

5 (i) diagnosing refractive and functional ability; or

6 (ii) diagnosing the presence of eye and adnexa disease or injury,
7 treating the disease or injury with the appropriate pharmaceutical agents and
8 procedures in accordance with this chapter, and making referrals to the
9 appropriate health care provider when warranted.

10 (B) ~~The diagnosis and correction of~~ Diagnosing and correcting
11 anomalies of the refractive and functional ability of the visual system and the
12 enhancement of visual performance including, ~~but not limited to,~~ the
13 following:

14 (i) ~~the prescribing and employment of~~ using ophthalmic lenses,
15 prisms, autorefractor or other automatic testing devices, frames, ophthalmic
16 aids, and prosthetic materials as consistent with the health of the eye;

17 (ii) ~~the prescribing and employment of~~ employing contact lenses;
18 and

19 (iii) administering visual training, vision therapy, orthoptics, and
20 pleoptics.

1 (C) Prescribing appropriate pharmaceutical agents for the diagnosis,
2 management, and treatment of the eye and adnexa.

3 (D) Removing superficial foreign bodies from the eye and adnexa;
4 epilating the eyelashes, including by electrolysis; and punctal dilation, lacrimal
5 irrigation, and punctal plugs insertion.

6 (E) Managing the following types of glaucoma in patients who are 16
7 years of age or older:

8 (i) adult primary open angle glaucoma;

9 (ii) exfoliative glaucoma;

10 (iii) pigmentary glaucoma;

11 (iv) low tension glaucoma;

12 (v) inflammatory (uveitic) glaucoma; and

13 (vi) emergency treatment of angle closure glaucoma.

14 (3) ~~“Disciplinary action” or “disciplinary cases” includes any action~~
15 ~~taken by a board against a licensee or applicant premised upon a finding of~~
16 ~~wrongdoing or unprofessional conduct by the licensee or applicant. It includes~~
17 ~~all sanctions of any kind, including obtaining injunctions, issuing warnings,~~
18 ~~reprimands, suspensions, or revocations of licenses, and other similar sanctions~~
19 ~~and ordering restitution.~~ “Director” means the Director of the Office of
20 Professional Regulation.

- 1 (4) “Financial interest” means being:
- 2 (A) a licensed practitioner of optometry; or
- 3 (B) a person who deals in goods and services ~~which~~ that are uniquely
- 4 related to the practice of optometry; or
- 5 (C) a person who has invested anything of value in a business ~~which~~
- 6 that provides optometric services.
- 7 (5) “Contact lenses” means those lenses that are worn for cosmetic,
- 8 therapeutic, or refractive purposes.

9 § 1704. PENALTIES

10 A person who obtains a license by fraud or misrepresentation or who

11 practices or attempts to practice optometry or hold himself or herself out as

12 being able to do so in this ~~state~~ State without first having obtained the license

13 required by this chapter shall be subject to the penalties provided in

14 3 V.S.A. § 127(e).

15 Subchapter 2. State Board of Optometry ~~Board~~

16 § 1707. QUALIFICATIONS; TERM OF OFFICE; REMOVAL

17 (a) ~~A state board of optometry~~ The State Board of Optometry is created

18 ~~which shall be the continuation of and successor to the state board of~~

19 ~~examiners in optometry heretofore established by chapter 29 of this title.~~

20 (b) The ~~board~~ Board shall consist of five members, three of whom shall be

21 residents of the ~~state~~, State ~~who~~ have had at least five years’ experience in the

1 practice of optometry in the ~~state~~, State and are in the active practice of
2 optometry at the time of their appointment; and two members who shall be
3 representatives of the public, who shall be residents of the ~~state~~ State for five
4 years and who shall have no financial interest in the profession other than as a
5 consumer or potential consumer of its services.

6 * * *

7 § 1708. POWERS AND DUTIES

8 (a) The ~~board~~ Board shall:

9 (1) Adopt rules under ~~3 V.S.A. chapter 25~~ the Vermont Administrative
10 Procedure Act necessary for the performance of its duties, ensuring that at least
11 the following are established by statute or rule:

12 (A) ~~A~~ a definition of the behavior for which a license is required;

13 (B) ~~Explanations~~ explanations of appeal and other significant rights
14 given by law to licensees, applicants, and the public; and

15 (C) standards for acceptance of continuing education, which may
16 identify mandatory content specific to pharmacology, and management of
17 adverse drug reactions.

18 (b) ~~The board may:~~

19 (1) ~~exercise authority granted under 3 V.S.A. chapter 5;~~

20 (2) ~~use the administrative services provided by the office of professional~~
21 ~~regulation under 3 V.S.A. chapter 5;~~

1 ~~(3) Receive legal assistance from the attorney general of the state and~~
2 ~~from the legal counsel for the director of the office of professional regulation.~~

3 [Repealed.]

4 (c) The ~~board~~ Board shall not limit the:

5 (1) ~~limit the~~ ownership of optometric practices to licensed optometrists;

6 (2) ~~limit the~~ number of offices or sites at which an optometrist may
7 practice; or

8 (3) ~~limit the~~ right of optometrists to practice in an association,
9 partnership, corporation, or other lawful entity with anyone.

10 * * *

11 Subchapter 3. Examinations and Licenses

12 * * *

13 § 1715. LICENSURE BY EXAMINATION

14 (a) The ~~board~~ Board may grant a license to an applicant who:

15 (1) has attained the age of majority;

16 (2) is a graduate of an optometric school or college accredited by a
17 regional or professional accreditation organization approved by the ~~board~~
18 Board;

19 (3) holds a current cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification from the
20 American Red Cross, the Vermont Heart Association, or a comparable source
21 recognized by the Director;

1 Subchapter 5. Diagnostic Pharmaceutical Agents

2 * * *

3 § 1727. EXPIRATION DATE

4 (a) An optometrist shall state the expiration date on the face of every
5 prescription written by that optometrist for contact lenses. The expiration date
6 shall be one year after the examination date unless a medical or refractive
7 problem affecting vision requires an earlier expiration date.

8 (b) An optometrist ~~may~~ shall not refuse to give the buyer a copy of the
9 buyer's prescription after the expiration date; however, the copy shall be
10 clearly marked to indicate that it is an expired prescription.

11 Subchapter 6. ~~Therapeutic~~ Pharmaceutical Agents

12 § 1728. USE OF THERAPEUTIC PHARMACEUTICAL AGENTS

13 ~~(a) An optometrist licensed under this chapter who possesses the~~
14 ~~endorsement required under section 1729 of this title, may:~~

15 ~~(1) use and prescribe appropriate pharmaceutical agents for the~~
16 ~~diagnosis, management, and treatment of the eye and adnexa.~~

17 ~~(2) remove superficial foreign bodies from the eye and adnexa, perform~~
18 ~~epilation of the eyelashes including electrolysis, punctal dilation, and lacrimal~~
19 ~~irrigation, and insert punctal plugs.~~

1 ~~(b) Nothing in this subchapter shall be construed to permit:~~

2 ~~(1) the use of therapeutic ultrasound, the use of injections except for the~~
3 ~~appropriate emergency stabilization of a patient, or the performance of surgery.~~

4 ~~“Surgery” means any procedure in which human tissue is cut, penetrated,~~
5 ~~thermally or electrically cauterized except when performing electrolysis, or~~
6 ~~otherwise infiltrated by mechanical or laser means in a manner not specifically~~
7 ~~authorized by this act;~~

8 ~~(2) the use of lasers for any procedure other than diagnostic testing; or~~

9 ~~(3) a licensee to perform indocyanine green angiography, removal of~~
10 ~~benign skin lesions involving subcutaneous injections, sub-tenons injections,~~
11 ~~retrobulbar injections, intraocular injections, ketamine (IM) for an infant’s~~
12 ~~examination under anesthesia, management of skin and conjunctival~~
13 ~~neoplasms, and botox injections.~~

14 (a)(1) A licensee who employs an oral therapeutic pharmaceutical agent
15 that might prove to have significant systemic adverse reactions or systemic
16 side effects shall, in a manner consistent with Vermont law, ascertain the risk
17 of systemic side effects through either a case history or by communicating with
18 the patient’s primary care provider.

19 (2) The licensee shall also communicate with the patient’s primary care
20 provider, or with a physician skilled in diseases of the eye, when, in the
21 professional judgment of the licensee, it is medically appropriate.

1 (3) Any communication shall be noted in the patient’s permanent record.

2 The methodology of communication shall be determined by the licensee.

3 (b)(1) If a glaucoma patient does not respond to up to three topically
4 administered pharmaceutical agents within a reasonable time, the licensee shall
5 refer the patient to a licensed ophthalmologist.

6 (2) A glaucoma patient shall not be treated by an optometrist with more
7 than three topically administered agents at any given time.

8 (3) If an oral medication is required to obtain an adequate clinical
9 response in a glaucoma patient, the licensee shall consult with a licensed
10 ophthalmologist as soon as clinically prudent following initiation of the oral
11 medication.

12 (4) This subsection shall not require that the licensee transfer care of the
13 patient to the consulting ophthalmologist, but does require that the patient be
14 seen by the consulting ophthalmologist.

15 § 1728a. ~~PERMISSIBLE TREATMENTS; GLAUCOMA TYPES~~

16 ~~(a) A licensee may treat the following types of glaucoma on patients who~~
17 ~~are 16 years of age or older:~~

18 ~~(1) adult primary open angle glaucoma;~~

19 ~~(2) exfoliative glaucoma;~~

20 ~~(3) pigmentary glaucoma;~~

21 ~~(4) low tension glaucoma;~~

1 ~~(5) inflammatory (uveitic) glaucoma; and~~

2 ~~(6) emergency treatment of angle closure glaucoma.~~

3 ~~(b) This section shall not prohibit a licensee from administering appropriate~~
4 ~~emergency stabilization treatment to a patient. [Repealed.]~~

5 * * *

6 § 1728c. ~~USE OF ORAL THERAPEUTIC PHARMACEUTICAL AGENT;~~

7 ~~COMMUNICATION WITH PRIMARY CARE PROVIDER~~

8 ~~A licensee who employs an oral therapeutic pharmaceutical agent that might~~
9 ~~prove to have significant systemic adverse reactions or systemic side effects~~
10 ~~shall, in a manner consistent with Vermont law, ascertain the risk of systemic~~
11 ~~side effects through either a case history or by communicating with the~~
12 ~~patient's primary care provider. The licensee shall also communicate with the~~
13 ~~patient's primary care provider, or with a physician skilled in diseases of the~~
14 ~~eye, when in the professional judgment of the licensee, it is medically~~
15 ~~appropriate. The communication shall be noted in the patient's permanent~~
16 ~~record. The methodology of communication shall be determined by the~~
17 ~~licensee. [Repealed.]~~

18 § 1728d. ~~DURATION OF GLAUCOMA TREATMENT WITHOUT~~

19 ~~REFERRAL~~

20 ~~(a) If a glaucoma patient does not respond to up to three topically~~
21 ~~administered pharmaceutical agents within a reasonable time, the licensee shall~~

1 refer the patient to a licensed ophthalmologist. No glaucoma patient shall be
2 treated by an optometrist with more than three topically administered agents at
3 any given time.

4 (b) If an oral medication is required to obtain an adequate clinical response,
5 the licensee shall consult with a licensed ophthalmologist as soon as clinically
6 prudent following initiation of the oral medication. This section shall not
7 require that the licensee transfer care of the patient to the consulting
8 ophthalmologist, but does require that the patient be seen by the consulting
9 ophthalmologist. [Repealed.]

10 § 1729. ENDORSEMENTS AND REQUIREMENTS

11 (a) Upon application, the board shall certify eligible licensees to use and
12 prescribe therapeutic drugs and to perform those procedures authorized by
13 subdivision 1728(a)(2) of this title, if the applicant meets the requirements of
14 section 1715 of this chapter for licensure by examination or meets the
15 requirements of section 1716 of this chapter for licensure by endorsement, and
16 is authorized under the license of another jurisdiction to use therapeutic
17 pharmaceutical agents.

18 (b) A licensee certified under this section shall affix current documentation
19 of certification to the license in the manner provided by the board.

20 (c) A licensee who is certified to use therapeutic pharmaceutical agents
21 shall demonstrate proof of current cardiopulmonary resuscitation certification

1 as a condition of initial certification and of license renewal. Acceptable courses
2 shall include:

3 (1) ~~courses in external cardiopulmonary resuscitation which are~~
4 ~~approved by the Vermont Heart Association or the American Red Cross; and~~

5 (2) ~~courses which include a review of diseases or conditions which~~
6 ~~might produce emergencies such as anaphylactic shock, diabetes, heart~~
7 ~~condition, or epilepsy.~~

8 (d) ~~A licensee certified to use therapeutic pharmaceutical agents shall, as~~
9 ~~part of required continuing education, receive not less than 50 percent of his or~~
10 ~~her continuing education in the use of pharmaceuticals, including treating~~
11 ~~possible complications arising from their use, and the treatment of glaucoma.~~

12 [Repealed.]

13 § 1729a. ~~PREREQUISITES TO TREATING GLAUCOMA~~

14 ~~A licensee who is already certified to use therapeutic pharmaceutical agents~~
15 ~~and who graduated from a school of optometry prior to 2003 and is not~~
16 ~~certified in another jurisdiction having substantially similar prerequisites to~~
17 ~~treating glaucoma shall, in addition to being certified to use therapeutic~~
18 ~~pharmaceutical agents, provide to the board verification of successful~~
19 ~~completion of an 18-hour course and examination offered by the State~~
20 ~~University of New York State College of Optometry or similar accredited~~
21 ~~institution. Successful completion shall include passing an examination~~

1 ~~substantially equivalent to the relevant portions on glaucoma and orals of the~~
2 ~~examination given to current graduates of optometry school and shall require~~
3 ~~the same passing grade. The course shall cover the diagnosis and treatment of~~
4 ~~glaucoma and the use of oral medications and shall be taught by both~~
5 ~~optometrists and ophthalmologists. In addition, the licensee shall collaborate~~
6 ~~with an optometrist who has been licensed to treat glaucoma for at least two~~
7 ~~years or an ophthalmologist regarding his or her current glaucoma patients for~~
8 ~~six months and at least five new glaucoma patients before treating glaucoma~~
9 ~~patients independently. These five new glaucoma patients shall be seen at least~~
10 ~~once by the collaborating glaucoma-licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist.~~

11 [Repealed.]

12 Sec. 13. OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION; STUDY OF
13 OPTOMETRIC ADVANCED PROCEDURES

14 (a) The Office of Professional Regulation shall conduct a study to evaluate
15 the safety and public health needs of enlarging the scope of practice of
16 optometrists to include advanced procedures. In conducting this study, the
17 Office shall consult with relevant stakeholders, including the Vermont Board
18 of Optometrists, the Vermont Optometric Association, the Vermont Board of
19 Medical Practice, the Vermont Department of Health, and the Vermont
20 Ophthalmological Society.

1 (b) The study shall evaluate, among other considerations, approaches to
2 advanced procedures in jurisdictions outside Vermont, patient need for access
3 to additional practitioners, effects on patient access to care, effects on patient
4 safety, costs to the health care system, and the existing education and training
5 for optometrists, including the degree to which it addresses training in
6 advanced procedures. The Office shall inquire into the specific clinical
7 training for both optometrists and ophthalmologists for specific procedures.

8 (c) On or before January 15, 2020, the Office shall report its findings,
9 including any recommendations for legislative action, to the House
10 Committees on Government Operations and on Health Care and to the Senate
11 Committees on Government Operations and on Health and Welfare.

12 * * * Pharmacy * * *

13 Sec. 14. 26 V.S.A. chapter 36 is amended to read:

14 CHAPTER 36. PHARMACY
15 Subchapter 1. General Provisions

16 * * *

17 § 2022. DEFINITIONS

18 As used in this chapter:

19 * * *

1 (7) “Drug outlet” means all pharmacies, wholesalers, manufacturers, and
2 other entities that are engaged in the manufacture, dispensing, delivery, or
3 distribution of prescription drugs.

4 * * *

5 (11)(A) “Manufacturing” means the production, preparation,
6 propagation, conversion, or processing of a drug or device, either directly or
7 indirectly, by extraction from substances of natural origin or independently by
8 means of chemical or biological synthesis.

9 (B) “Manufacturing” includes the packaging or repackaging of a drug
10 or device ~~or~~ the labeling or relabeling of the container of a drug or device for
11 resale by a pharmacy, practitioner, or other person; and virtual manufacturing
12 by an entity that sells its own prescription drug or device without physically
13 possessing the product.

14 * * *

15 (19)(A) “Wholesale distributor” means any person who is engaged in
16 wholesale distribution of prescription drugs, ~~but~~ including virtual distribution
17 by an entity that sells a prescription drug or device without physically
18 possessing the product.

19 (B) “Wholesale distributor” does not include any for-hire carrier or
20 person hired solely to transport prescription drugs.

21 * * *

1 Subchapter 2. Board of Pharmacy

2 § 2031. CREATION; APPOINTMENT; TERMS; ORGANIZATION

3 (a)(1) There is hereby created the Board of Pharmacy to enforce the
4 provisions of this chapter.

5 (2) The Board shall consist of ~~seven~~ eight members, five of whom shall
6 be pharmacists licensed under this chapter with five years of experience in the
7 practice of pharmacy in this State. One member shall be a pharmacy
8 technician registered under this chapter. Two members shall be members of
9 the public having no financial interest in the practice of pharmacy.

10 (b) Members of the Board shall be appointed by the Governor pursuant to
11 3 V.S.A. §§ 129b and 2004.

12 § 2032. POWERS; DUTIES; LIMITATIONS

13 (a) The Board shall adopt rules necessary for the performance of its duties,
14 including:

15 (1) scope of the practice of pharmacy;

16 (2) qualifications for obtaining licensure;

17 (3) explanations of appeal and other rights given to licensees, applicants,
18 and the public; ~~and~~

19 (4) rules regulating pharmacy technicians; and

20 (5) provisions for the inspection of any regulated entity or commercial
21 location where legend drugs are manufactured or kept.

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* * *

(c) The Board of Pharmacy shall also have the following responsibilities in regard to medications, drugs, legend devices, and other materials used in this State in the diagnosis, mitigation, and treatment or prevention of injury, illness, and disease:

(1) ~~The~~ the regulation of the sale ~~at retail and the~~ compounding, administration, and dispensing of medications, drugs, legend devices, and other materials, including the right to seize any such drugs, legend devices, and other materials found to be detrimental to the public health and welfare by the Board pursuant to an appropriate hearing as required under the Administrative Procedure Act;

(2) ~~The~~ the specifications of minimum professional and technical equipment, environment, supplies, and procedures for the compounding or dispensing of such medications, drugs, legend devices, and other materials within the practice of pharmacy;

(3) ~~The~~ the control of the purity and quality of such medications, drugs, legend devices, and other materials within the practice of pharmacy; and

(4) ~~The~~ the issuance of certificates of registration and licenses of drug outlets; ~~and~~

~~(5) The development of criteria for a standardized tamper-resistant prescription pad that can be used by all health care providers who prescribe~~

1 ~~drugs. Such criteria shall be developed in consultation with pharmacists,~~
2 ~~hospitals, nursing homes, physicians and other prescribers, and other affected~~
3 ~~parties.~~

4 * * *

5 Subchapter 3. Licensing

6 * * *

7 ~~§ 2042b. PHARMACY TECHNICIANS; NONDISCRETIONARY TASKS;~~
8 ~~SUPERVISION~~

9 ~~(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a registered pharmacy~~
10 ~~technician may perform packaging or other nondiscretionary tasks only while~~
11 ~~assisting and under the supervision and control of a pharmacist.~~

12 ~~(b) This section does not authorize a pharmacy technician to perform~~
13 ~~packaging or other nondiscretionary tasks without a pharmacist on duty, and~~
14 ~~without being under the supervision and control of a pharmacist.~~

15 ~~(c) This section does not authorize a pharmacy technician to perform any~~
16 ~~act requiring the exercise of professional judgment by a pharmacist.~~

17 ~~(d) The Board may adopt rules to specify tasks that a pharmacy technician~~
18 ~~may perform under the supervision and control of a pharmacist pursuant to~~
19 ~~subsection (a) of this section. A pharmacy or pharmacist that employs a~~
20 ~~pharmacy technician to perform tasks specified in subsection (a) shall do so in~~
21 ~~conformity with the rules adopted by the Board pursuant to this section.~~

1 (e) ~~[Repealed.]~~

2 (f)(1) ~~A pharmacist on duty shall be directly responsible for the conduct of~~
3 ~~a pharmacy technician.~~

4 (2) ~~A pharmacist responsible for a pharmacy technician shall be on the~~
5 ~~premises at all times, or in the case of a remote pharmacy approved by the~~
6 ~~Board, immediately available by a functioning videoconference link.~~

7 (3) ~~A pharmacist shall verify a prescription before medication is~~
8 ~~provided to the patient. [Repealed.]~~

9 * * *

10 Subchapter 6. Wholesale Distributors and Manufacturers

11 § 2067. ~~WHOLESALE DISTRIBUTOR~~ DISTRIBUTORS AND
12 MANUFACTURERS; LICENSURE REQUIRED

13 (a) A person who is not licensed under this subchapter shall not engage in
14 wholesale distribution or manufacturing in this State.

15 * * *

16 (c) The Board may require a separate license for each facility directly or
17 indirectly owned or operated by the same business entity ~~within this State~~, or
18 for a parent entity with divisions, subsidiaries, or affiliate companies ~~within~~
19 ~~this State~~ when operations are conducted at more than one location and there
20 exists joint ownership and control among all the entities.

1 (d) An agent or employee of any licensed wholesale distributor shall not be
2 required to obtain a license under this subchapter and may lawfully possess
3 pharmaceutical drugs when that agent or employee is acting in the usual course
4 of business or employment.

5 § 2068. REQUIREMENTS; APPLICANTS; LICENSES

6 An applicant shall satisfy the ~~board~~ Board that it has, and licensees shall
7 maintain, the following:

8 (1) Acceptable storage and handling conditions plus facilities standards.

9 (2) Minimum liability and other insurance as may be required under any
10 applicable federal or state law.

11 (3) A security system ~~which~~ that includes after hours, central alarm or
12 comparable entry detection capability, restricted premises access, adequate
13 outside perimeter lighting, comprehensive employment applicant screening,
14 and safeguards against employee theft.

15 (4) An electronic, manual, or any other reasonable system of records,
16 describing ~~all wholesale distributor~~ activities governed by this subchapter for
17 the two-year period following disposition of each product, which shall be
18 reasonably accessible, as defined by the ~~board~~ Board by rule, during any
19 inspection authorized by the ~~board~~ Board.

20 (5) Officers, directors, managers, and other persons in charge of
21 wholesale drug distribution, manufacture, storage, and handling, who shall at

1 all times demonstrate and maintain their capability to conduct business
2 according to sound financial practices as well as state and federal law.

3 * * *

4 (9) Operations in compliance with all federal requirements ~~applicable to~~
5 ~~wholesale drug distribution.~~

6 (10)(A) Compliance with standards and procedures ~~which~~ that the ~~board~~
7 Board shall adopt by rule concerning provisions for initial and periodic on-site
8 inspections, criminal and financial background checks, ongoing monitoring,
9 reciprocity for out-of-state wholesale drug distributors inspected by a third
10 party organization recognized by the ~~board~~ Board or inspected and licensed by
11 a ~~state~~ State licensing authority with legal standards for licensure that are
12 comparable to the standards adopted by the ~~board~~ Board pursuant to this
13 subdivision (10), protection of a wholesale drug distributor's proprietary
14 information, and any other requirements consistent with the purposes of this
15 subdivision (10).

16 (B) The ~~board~~ Board rules may recognize third party accreditation in
17 satisfaction of some or all of the requirements of this subdivision (10).

18 * * *

1 § 2076. INSPECTION POWERS; ACCESS TO WHOLESAL
2 DISTRIBUTOR AND MANUFACTURER RECORDS

3 (a) A person authorized by the Board may enter, during normal business
4 hours, all open premises purporting or appearing to be used by a wholesale
5 distributor or manufacturer for purposes of inspection.

6 (b)(1) Wholesale distributors and manufacturers may keep records
7 regarding purchase and sales transactions at a central location apart from the
8 principal office of the wholesale distributor or the location at which the drugs
9 were stored and from which they were shipped, provided that such records
10 shall be made available for inspection within two working days of a request by
11 the Board.

12 (2) Records may be kept in any form permissible under federal law
13 applicable to prescription drugs record keeping.

14 (c) If the Board determines it is necessary to inspect a certain premises
15 under the same ownership more than once in any two-year period, the Board
16 may charge a reinspection fee of ~~\$100.00~~ \$500.00.

17 * * *

18 Sec. 15. OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION; EVALUATION
19 OF PHARMACIST PRESCRIBING AUTHORITY

20 (a) The Office of Professional Regulation shall evaluate the costs and
21 benefits of incorporating prescribing authority into the scope of practice of

1 licensed pharmacists. This evaluation shall be conducted in consultation with
2 relevant stakeholders and shall include consideration of:

3 (1) approaches to clinical pharmacy in jurisdictions outside Vermont;

4 (2) potential impacts on patient safety and on primary and preventive
5 care delivered by other health care professionals;

6 (3) effects on patient access to care; and

7 (4) the appropriate extent, if any, of the prescribing authority.

8 (b) On or before January 15, 2020, the Office shall report its findings and
9 any recommendations for legislative action to the House and Senate

10 Committees on Government Operations, the House Committee on Health Care,
11 and the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare.

12 * * * Real Estate Brokers and Salespersons * * *

13 Sec. 16. 26 V.S.A. chapter 41 is amended to read:

14 CHAPTER 41. REAL ESTATE BROKERS AND SALESPERSONS

15 Subchapter 1. General Provisions

16 * * *

17 § 2213. PENALTIES

18 A person who shall violate any provision of this chapter shall be subject to
19 the penalties provided in 3 V.S.A. § 127(e).

20 * * *

1 Subchapter 3. Licenses

2 * * *

3 § 2292. ELIGIBILITY

4 * * *

5 (b)(1) A license as a real estate salesperson shall be granted to a person
6 who satisfies all of the following:

7 (A)(1) has passed an examination as required by the Commission;

8 (B)(2) is at least 18 years of age;

9 (C)(3) has been employed by or become associated with a brokerage
10 firm and that firm's principal broker; and

11 (D)(4) has completed a course of instruction, approved by the
12 Commission, of at least 40 hours.

13 ~~(2)(A) An initial salesperson license shall expire 90 days from issuance.~~

14 ~~(B) The license of a salesperson who has provided documentation to~~
15 ~~the Commission showing successful completion of eight hours of instruction~~
16 ~~addressing topics specified by the Commission relating to the salesperson's~~
17 ~~postlicensure practice of the profession shall be renewed without application or~~
18 ~~fee and remain valid until the end of the biennial licensing period.~~

19 ~~(3) Has been employed by or become associated with a brokerage firm~~
20 ~~and that firm's principal broker.~~

1 ~~(4) Has completed a course of instruction, approved by the Commission,~~
2 ~~of at least 40 hours.~~

3 * * *

4 § 2293. RENEWAL OF LICENSE; EXPIRED LICENSE

5 ~~(a)~~ Licenses shall be renewed every two years without examination and on
6 payment of the required fees, provided that the person applying for renewal
7 completes at least 24 hours of instruction for brokers and 16 hours of
8 instruction for salespersons, approved by the Commission, during the
9 preceding two-year period. Four hours of this continuing education instruction
10 shall address legislation and other topics specified by the Commission for each
11 renewal period.

12 ~~(b)(1) A broker or salesperson applying for reinstatement of a license that~~
13 ~~has expired shall be assessed both the renewal fee and late renewal penalty~~
14 ~~established by the Director of the Office of Professional Regulation and shall~~
15 ~~not be assessed renewal fees for the years during which the license was~~
16 ~~expired.~~

17 ~~(2) Reinstatement shall not take place until the applicant completes the~~
18 ~~continuing education required for the previous renewal period.~~

19 ~~(c)(1) If a broker or salesperson’s license has expired for greater than five~~
20 ~~consecutive years, the broker or salesperson shall apply for reinstatement in~~

1 ~~accordance with the initial licensure requirements as set forth in section 2292~~
2 ~~of this chapter, including a course of instruction and examination.~~

3 ~~(2) The Commission may waive the reinstatement requirements based~~
4 ~~upon licensed practice in another state.~~

5 ~~(d) The Commission may waive or postpone compliance with the~~
6 ~~instructional requirements of this section in cases of extreme hardship on the~~
7 ~~part of the licensee. No licensee, however, may receive a postponement or~~
8 ~~waiver for two successive two-year periods of licensure. The Commission may~~
9 ~~accept fewer hours of continuing education instruction for renewal of a license~~
10 ~~on a prorated basis following an initial licensing period of less than two years.~~

11 ~~(e) [Repealed.]~~

12 * * *

13 § 2296. UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

14 ~~Unprofessional conduct means the following conduct and~~ In addition to the
15 ~~conduct set forth in 3 V.S.A. § 129a, the following conduct by those regulated~~
16 under this chapter constitutes unprofessional conduct:

17 (1) ~~makes a material misstatement in the application for his or her~~
18 ~~license;~~

19 (2) ~~uses dishonest or misleading advertising;~~

20 (3) ~~demonstrates incompetency to act as a real estate broker or~~
21 ~~salesperson;~~

1 ~~(4) is found by the Commission to be guilty of fraud or fraudulent~~
2 ~~practices; or is convicted for violating this chapter; or is convicted of forgery,~~
3 ~~embezzlement, obtaining money under false pretenses, or conspiring to~~
4 ~~defraud;~~

5 ~~(5) commingles commingling money or other property to which the~~
6 ~~licensee's clients or other persons are entitled with the licensee's own, except~~
7 ~~to the extent nominal sums of the licensee's funds may be required to maintain~~
8 ~~an open trust account;~~

9 ~~(6)(2) fails failing to inform clients, establish trust and escrow accounts,~~
10 ~~maintain records, and otherwise act in accordance with the provisions of~~
11 ~~section 2214 of this chapter with respect to all monies received by the licensee~~
12 ~~as a real estate broker, or as escrow agent, or as the temporary custodian of the~~
13 ~~funds of others, in a real estate transaction;~~

14 ~~(7)(3) fails failing promptly to segregate any properties received that are~~
15 ~~to be held for the benefit of others;~~

16 ~~(8) is found by the Commission to have engaged in any act or conduct,~~
17 ~~whether of the same or different character as that described in this section, that~~
18 ~~contributes to or demonstrates incompetency or dishonest fraudulent dealings;~~

19 ~~(9)(4) fails failing to fully disclose to a buyer all material facts within~~
20 ~~the licensee's knowledge concerning the property being sold;~~

1 (~~10~~5) fails failing to fully disclose to a buyer the existence of an
2 agency relationship between the licensee and the seller.

3 * * *

4 * * * Opticians * * *

5 Sec. 17. 26 V.S.A. chapter 47 is amended to read:

6 CHAPTER 47. OPTICIANS

7 * * *

8 Subchapter 2. Administration

9 § 2661. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR; ~~DUTIES~~

10 (a) The ~~director~~ Director shall:

11 (1) provide general information to applicants for licensure as opticians;

12 (2) explain appeal procedures to opticians and applicants and complaint
13 procedures to the public;

14 (3) administer fees established by law;

15 (4) receive applications for licensure, issue licenses, to applicants
16 qualified under this chapter, deny or renew licenses and issue, revoke, suspend,
17 condition, and reinstate licenses as ordered by an administrative law officer;

18 (5) refer ~~complaints and~~ disciplinary matters ~~to~~ for adjudication by an
19 administrative law officer;

20 (6) conduct or specify examinations and pass upon the qualifications of
21 applicants for reciprocal registration;

1 (7) conduct hearings as necessary for the issuance, renewal, or discipline
2 of a license; and

3 (8) establish by rule standards of education required of applicants, as
4 well as minimum standards for any school presenting a course for present or
5 future opticians.

6 (b) The ~~director~~ Director may, after consultation with the advisor
7 appointees, adopt rules necessary to perform the director’s duties under this
8 chapter, including rules governing apprenticeship and continuing education.
9 Rules adopted under this section shall not prohibit lawful advertising, the
10 display of ophthalmic materials or merchandise, limit the place or location
11 where opticians may practice, nor be designed to limit the number of opticians
12 in the State.

13 * * *

14 § 2665. ~~POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR~~

15 ~~(a) The Director shall:~~

16 ~~(1) adopt only those rules necessary for the full and efficient~~
17 ~~performance of its duties;~~

18 ~~(2) conduct examinations and pass upon the qualifications of applicants~~
19 ~~for reciprocal registration;~~

1 ~~(3) establish standards of education required of applicants for licensing~~
2 ~~and establish, by appropriate rules, the minimum standards for any school~~
3 ~~presenting a course for present or future opticians;~~

4 ~~(4) conduct any necessary hearings in connection with the issuance,~~
5 ~~renewal, suspension, or revocation of a license;~~

6 ~~(5) [Repealed.]~~

7 ~~(6) adopt rules establishing continuing education requirements and~~
8 ~~approve continuing education programs to assist a licensee in meeting these~~
9 ~~requirements.~~

10 ~~(b) The Director shall not:~~

11 ~~(1) adopt any rules prohibiting lawful advertising, the display of~~
12 ~~ophthalmic materials or merchandise, or limiting the place or location where~~
13 ~~opticians may practice; or~~

14 ~~(2) adopt any rules specifically designed to limit the number of opticians~~
15 ~~in this State. [Repealed.]~~

16 * * *

17 Subchapter 3. Licenses

18 § 2671. APPLICATIONS

19 Any person who desires to practice as an optician be licensed under this
20 chapter shall file a written submit an application for a license and the
21 application as specified by the Director, accompanied by payment of the

1 ~~required~~ fee ~~with the office on forms provided by the office~~. An applicant
2 shall submit satisfactory proof that he or she meets the qualifications under
3 section 2672 of this ~~title~~ chapter.

4 § 2672. QUALIFICATIONS

5 ~~No~~ A person ~~may~~ shall not be ~~examined or~~ licensed under this chapter,
6 except as otherwise provided in this chapter, unless ~~the applicant has attained~~
7 the age of majority he or she has obtained a high school education or its
8 equivalent and ~~possesses the following qualifications:~~

9 (1) Education. Has completed:

10 (A) ~~Has obtained a high school education or its equivalent and has~~
11 ~~completed~~ at least a two-year course of study in a school of ophthalmic
12 dispensing approved by the ~~board~~ Director or a school ~~which~~ that is a
13 candidate for accreditation by an accreditation agency approved by the United
14 States Department of Education and by the ~~director~~ Director; ~~or~~

15 (2)(B) ~~Has completed three~~ at least two years of practical training and
16 experience, approved by the ~~director~~ Director, under the supervision of a
17 licensed optician, ophthalmologist, or optometrist; or

18 (C) the National Academy of Opticianry Ophthalmic Career
19 Progression Program, including at least one year of practical training and
20 experience, approved by the Director, under the supervision of a licensed
21 optician, ophthalmologist, or optometrist; and

1 (2) Examination. Has passed an examination recognized by the Director
2 that shall include assessment of competency in ophthalmic materials;
3 laboratory, practical, and physiological optics; prescription interpretation;
4 dispensing preparation; adjustment of lenses, spectacles, eyeglasses, prisms,
5 tinted lenses, and appurtenances; the use of lensometers or equivalent
6 instruments; adjusting instruments; and pupillary and facial measurements.

7 § 2673. ~~EXAMINATION; LICENSES~~

8 ~~(a) Examinations for licenses shall be conducted at least once each year and~~
9 ~~shall be devised in form and substance to evaluate fairly the applicant’s~~
10 ~~qualifications to practice as a licensed optician. The examination shall include,~~
11 ~~but not be limited to, ophthalmic materials, laboratory, practical and~~
12 ~~physiological optics, prescription interpretation, dispensing preparation,~~
13 ~~adjustment of lenses, spectacles, eyeglasses, prisms, tinted lenses, and~~
14 ~~appurtenances, the use of lensometers or equivalent instruments, adjusting~~
15 ~~instruments, and pupillary and facial measurements.~~

16 ~~(b) Any applicant passing the examination and meeting the requirements~~
17 ~~established by the director shall be issued a license under this chapter.~~

18 [Repealed.]

19 * * *

1 * * * Radiology * * *

2 Sec. 18. 26 V.S.A. chapter 51 is amended to read:

3 CHAPTER 51. RADIOLOGY

4 Subchapter 1. General Provisions

5 § 2801. DEFINITIONS

6 As used in this chapter:

7 (1) ~~“Board”~~ “Director” means the ~~board of radiologic technology~~

8 Director of the Office of Professional Regulation.

9 (2) “Practice of radiologic technology” means the practice of:

10 (A) radiography; ~~or~~

11 (B) nuclear medicine technology; or

12 (C) radiation therapy.

13 (3) “Practice of radiography” means the direct application of ionizing
14 radiation to human beings.

15 (4) “Practice of nuclear medicine technology” means the act of giving a
16 radioactive substance to a human being or the act of performing associated
17 imaging procedures, or both.

18 (5) “Practice of radiation therapy” means the direct application of
19 ionizing radiation to human beings for therapeutic purposes or the act of
20 performing associated imaging procedures, or both.

1 (6) “Licensed practitioner” means a person licensed under this title to
2 practice medicine, osteopathy, advanced practice registered nursing, dentistry,
3 podiatry, naturopathic medicine, or chiropractic.

4 (7) “Financial interest” means being:

5 (A) a licensed practitioner of radiologic technology; ~~or~~

6 (B) a person who deals in goods and services ~~which~~ that are uniquely
7 related to the practice of radiologic technology; or

8 (C) a person who has invested anything of value in a business ~~which~~
9 that provides radiologic technology services.

10 (8) “Unauthorized practice” means conduct prohibited by section 2802
11 of this ~~title~~ chapter and not exempted by section 2803 of this ~~title~~ chapter.

12 (9) “Direct ~~personal~~ supervision” means that the person being
13 supervised remains in the physical presence of the supervisor at all times.

14 (10) “General supervision” means that the supervisor is readily available
15 for consultation or intervention on the premises where radiologic technology
16 services are being provided.

17 (11) “ARRT” means the American Registry of Radiologic
18 Technologists.

19 (12) “NMTCB” means the Nuclear Medicine Technologist Certification
20 Board.

21 (13) “Office” means the Office of Professional Regulation.

1 § 2802. PROHIBITIONS

2 (a) [Repealed.]

3 (b) ~~No~~ A person shall not practice radiologic technology unless he or she is
4 licensed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

5 (c) ~~No~~ A person shall not practice radiography without a license for
6 radiography ~~from the board~~ unless exempt under section 2803 of this ~~title~~
7 chapter.

8 (d) [Repealed.]

9 (e) ~~No~~ A person shall not practice nuclear medicine technology without a
10 license for that purpose ~~from the board~~ unless exempt under section 2803 of
11 this ~~title~~ chapter.

12 (f) ~~No~~ A person shall not practice radiation therapy technology without a
13 license for that purpose ~~from the board~~ unless exempt under section 2803 of
14 this ~~title~~ chapter.

15 § 2803. EXEMPTIONS

16 The prohibitions in section 2802 of this chapter shall not apply to dentists
17 licensed under chapter 12 of this title and actions within their scope of practice
18 nor to:

19 (1) Licensed practitioners acting within the scope of practice for their
20 licensed field, provided that their practice acts and rules adopted thereunder
21 ~~make provisions for~~ have been expressly found by the Director, in consultation

1 with advisors appointed under this chapter, to match or surpass the training in
2 radiation safety and proper radiation practices ~~determined in consultation with~~
3 ~~the Board~~ required by this chapter and rules adopted under this chapter.

4 * * *

5 (5) Any of the following when operating dental radiographic equipment
6 to conduct intraoral radiographic examinations under the general supervision
7 of a licensed practitioner; and any of the following when operating dental
8 radiographic equipment to conduct specialized radiographic examinations,
9 including tomographic, cephalometric, or temporomandibular joint
10 examinations, if the person has completed a course in radiography approved by
11 the Board of Dental Examiners and practices under the general supervision of a
12 licensed practitioner:

13 * * *

14 (D) a student of dental therapy, dental hygiene, or dental assisting as
15 part of the training program when ~~directly supervised by~~ under the direct
16 supervision of a licensed dentist, licensed dental therapist, licensed dental
17 hygienist, or registered dental assistant.

18 * * *

19 (7) Researchers operating bone densitometry equipment for body
20 composition upon successful completion of courses on body composition and
21 radiation safety approved by the ~~Board~~ Director. The ~~Board~~ Director shall not

1 require this coursework to exceed eight hours. The ~~Board~~ Director may
2 consider other exemptions from licensure for bona fide research projects
3 subject to course and examination requirements as deemed necessary for
4 public protection.

5 § 2804. COMPETENCY REQUIREMENT OF CERTAIN LICENSED
6 PRACTITIONERS

7 (a) Unless the requirements of subdivision 2803(1) of this chapter have
8 been satisfied, a ~~physician, as defined in chapter 23 of this title; podiatrist, as~~
9 ~~defined in chapter 7 of this title; chiropractic physician, as defined in chapter~~
10 ~~10 of this title; osteopathic physician, as defined in chapter 33 of this title; or~~
11 ~~naturopathic physician, as defined in chapter 81 of this title,~~ licensed
12 practitioner shall not apply ionizing radiation to human beings without first
13 having satisfied the ~~Board~~ Director of his or her competency to do so.

14 (b) The ~~Board~~ Director shall:

15 (1) consult with the appropriate licensing boards concerning suitable
16 performance standards; and

17 (2) by rule, provide for periodic recertification of competency.

18 (c) A person subject to the provisions of this section shall be subject to the
19 fees established under subdivisions 2814(4) and (5) of this chapter.

20 (d) This section does not apply to radiologists who are certified or eligible
21 for certification by the American Board of Radiology, nuclear cardiologists

1 who are certified or eligible for certification by the Certification Board of
2 Nuclear Cardiology, or interventional cardiologists and electrophysiologists
3 who are certified or eligible for certification by the American Board of Internal
4 Medicine.

5 § 2805. PENALTY AND ENFORCEMENT

6 A person found guilty of violating section 2802 or 2804 of this ~~title~~ chapter
7 shall be subject to the penalties provided in 3 V.S.A. § 127(e).

8 Subchapter 2. ~~Board of Radiologic Technology~~ Administration

9 § 2811. ~~BOARD~~ REGULATION OF RADIOLOGIC TECHNOLOGY;

10 DIRECTOR; ADVISOR APPOINTEES

11 (a)(1) ~~A board of radiologic technology is created, consisting of six~~
12 ~~members. The board shall be attached to the office of professional regulation~~
13 The Director shall administer the provisions of this chapter.

14 (2)(A) The Secretary of State shall appoint six persons of suitable
15 qualifications in accordance with this section to advise the Director in matters
16 concerning radiologic technology, radiologic safety, and the optimal
17 administration of this chapter.

18 (B) The Secretary shall appoint the advisors for five-year staggered
19 terms. Four of the initial appointments shall be for four-, three-, two-, and one-
20 year terms.

1 (3) The Director shall consult the appointed advisors prior to exercising
2 interpretive discretion, adopting or amending rules, and determining any
3 substantial regulatory question presented in the course of administering this
4 chapter.

5 (b) One ~~member of the board~~ advisor shall be a member of the public who
6 has no financial interest in radiologic technology other than as a consumer or
7 possible consumer of its services. The public member shall have no financial
8 interest personally or through a spouse.

9 (c) One ~~member of the board~~ advisor shall be a radiologist certified by the
10 American Board of Radiology.

11 (d) Three ~~members of the board~~ advisors shall be licensed under this
12 chapter, one representing each of the three following primary modalities:
13 radiography; nuclear medicine technology; and radiation therapy.

14 (e) One ~~member of the board~~ advisor shall be a representative from the
15 radiological health program of the Vermont ~~department of health~~ Department
16 of Health.

17 (f) ~~Board members shall be appointed by the governor. [Repealed.]~~

18 § 2812. DIRECTOR; POWERS AND DUTIES

19 (a) The ~~Board~~ Director shall adopt rules necessary for the ~~performance~~
20 effective administration of its duties this chapter, including:

- 1 (1) a definition of the practice of radiologic technology, interpreting
- 2 section 2801 of this ~~title~~ chapter;
- 3 (2) qualifications for obtaining licensure, interpreting sections 2821a
- 4 and 2821b of this chapter;
- 5 (3) explanations of appeal and other significant rights given to
- 6 applicants and the public;
- 7 (4) procedures for disciplinary and reinstatement cases;
- 8 (5) [Repealed.]
- 9 (6) procedures for mandatory reporting of unsafe radiologic conditions
- 10 or practices;
- 11 (7) procedures for continued competency evaluation;
- 12 (8) procedures for radiation safety;
- 13 (9) procedures for competency standards for license applications and
- 14 renewals.
- 15 (b) The ~~Board~~ Director shall:
- 16 (1) [Repealed.]
- 17 (2) ~~use the administrative and legal services provided by the Office of~~
- 18 ~~Professional Regulation under 3 V.S.A. chapter 5; [Repealed.]~~
- 19 (3) investigate suspected unprofessional conduct;
- 20 (4) periodically determine whether a sufficient supply of good quality
- 21 radiologic technology services is available in Vermont at a competitive and

1 reasonable price and take suitable action, within the scope of ~~its~~ the Office's
2 powers, to solve or bring public and professional attention to any problem that
3 it finds in this area; and

4 (5) as a condition of renewal require that a licensee establish that he or
5 she has completed a minimum of 24 hours of continuing education ~~as approved~~
6 ~~by the Board,~~ the specific requirements of which may be specified by rule.

7 (c) The ~~Board~~ Director may:

8 (1) Refer cases of apparent improper radiologic technology practice to
9 any occupational board with authority over the person concerned.

10 (2) Investigate suspected cases of unauthorized practice of radiologic
11 technology, and refer any such case to the Office's State prosecuting attorney,
12 the Attorney General, or a State's Attorney for possible prosecution and
13 injunctive relief.

14 * * *

15 (8)(A) Conduct a competency evaluation where radiographic services
16 are performed by licensees and licensed practitioners required to demonstrate
17 competency under section 2804 of this ~~title~~ chapter to ensure that optimum
18 radiologic technology practices are used to minimize patient and occupational
19 radiation dose. ~~The fee required under section 2814 of this title shall not be~~
20 ~~assessed more than once in any two-year period against any licensed~~
21 ~~practitioner evaluated under this subdivision.~~

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Subchapter 3. Licensing

* * *

§ 2821a. LICENSE FOR PRIMARY MODALITIES; COMMON
REQUIREMENTS

The ~~board~~ Director shall recognize and follow the ARRT and the NMTCB primary certification process. The ~~board~~ Director shall issue a license to practice in one of the following three primary modalities to any person who in addition to the other requirements of this section, has reached the age of majority and has completed preliminary education equivalent to at least four years of high school:

(1) Radiography. The ~~board~~ Director shall issue a radiography license to any person who, in addition to meeting the general requirements of this section:

* * *

(2) Nuclear medicine technology. The ~~board~~ Director shall issue a nuclear medicine technology license to any person who, in addition to meeting the general requirements of this section:

* * *

(3) Radiation therapy. The ~~board~~ Director shall issue a radiation therapy license to any person who, in addition to meeting the general requirements of this section:

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§ 2821b. LICENSE FOR POSTPRIMARY MODALITIES

(a) ~~The Board recognizes and follows~~ Director shall recognize and follow the ARRT and NMTCB postprimary certification process ~~for~~ in the following postprimary practice categories: mammography, computed tomography (CT), cardiac-interventional radiography, vascular-interventional radiography, and positron emission tomography (PET).

* * *

§ 2822. ~~PROCEDURE FOR DENIAL OF LICENSE~~

~~When the board intends to deny an application for license, it shall send the applicant written notice of its decision by certified mail. The notice shall include a statement of the reasons for the action. Within 30 days of the date that an applicant receives such notice, the applicant may file a petition with the board for review of its preliminary decision. At the hearing, the burden shall be on the applicant to show that a license should be issued. After the hearing, the board shall affirm or reverse its preliminary denial. [Repealed.]~~

§ 2823. ~~RENEWAL AND PROCEDURE FOR NONRENEWAL~~

~~(a) Each radiographer, nuclear medicine technologist, and radiation therapist licensed to practice by the board shall apply biennially for the renewal of a license. One month prior to the renewal date, the office of professional regulation shall send to each of those licensees a license renewal~~

1 application form and a notice of the date on which the existing license will
2 expire. The licensee shall file the application for license renewal and pay a
3 renewal fee. In order to be eligible for renewal, an applicant shall document
4 completion of no fewer than 24 hours of board approved continuing education.
5 Required accumulation of continuing education hours shall begin on the first
6 day of the first full biennial licensing period following initial licensure.

7 (b) A person who practices radiography, nuclear medicine technology, or
8 radiation therapy and who fails to renew a license or registration or fails to pay
9 the fees required by this chapter shall be an illegal practitioner and shall forfeit
10 the right to practice until reinstated by the board.

11 (c) The board shall adopt rules setting forth qualifications for reinstating
12 lapsed licenses. [Repealed.]

13 * * *

14 § 2825a. LICENSURE BY ENDORSEMENT

15 The ~~board~~ Director may grant a license to an applicant who possesses a
16 license in good standing in another state and possesses the applicable ARRT or
17 NMTCB primary and postprimary certifications as set forth in sections 2821a
18 and 2821b of this subchapter, respectively.

1 § 2832. ~~DISCIPLINE OF LICENSEES~~

2 ~~(a) The board shall accept oral and written complaints from any member of~~
3 ~~the public, any licensee, any state or federal agency, or the attorney general.~~

4 ~~The board may initiate disciplinary action in any complaint against a licensee~~
5 ~~and may act without having received a complaint.~~

6 ~~(b) The burden of proof shall be on the state to show by a preponderance of~~
7 ~~the evidence that the licensee has engaged in unprofessional conduct.~~

8 ~~(c) After hearing and upon a finding of unprofessional conduct, the board~~
9 ~~may:~~

10 ~~(1) revoke a license;~~

11 ~~(2) suspend a license; or~~

12 ~~(3) issue a warning to a licensee.~~

13 ~~(d) Before or after hearing, the board may approve a negotiated agreement~~
14 ~~between the parties when it is in the best interest of the public health, safety, or~~
15 ~~welfare to do so. Such an agreement may include, without limitation, any of~~
16 ~~the following conditions or restrictions which may be in addition to or in lieu~~
17 ~~of suspension:~~

18 ~~(1) a requirement that a licensee submit to care or counseling;~~

19 ~~(2) a restriction that a licensee practice only under supervision of a~~
20 ~~named person or a person with specified credentials;~~

1 (5) “Practice of alcohol and drug abuse counseling” means the
2 application of methods, including psychotherapy, that assist an individual or
3 group to develop an understanding of alcohol and drug abuse dependency
4 problems or process disorders, and to define goals and plan actions reflecting
5 the individual’s or group’s interests, abilities, and needs as affected by alcohol
6 and drug abuse dependency problems and comorbid conditions.

7 * * *

8 * * * Real Estate Appraisers * * *

9 Sec. 21. 26 V.S.A. chapter 69 is amended to read:

10 CHAPTER 69. REAL ESTATE APPRAISERS

11 Subchapter 1. General Provisions

12 § 3311. DEFINITIONS

13 As used in this chapter:

14 * * *

15 (7) ~~“Board”~~ “Director” means the ~~Board of Real Estate Appraisers~~
16 ~~established under this chapter~~ Director of the Office of Professional
17 Regulation.

18 (8)(A) “Disciplinary action” means any action ~~taken by the Board~~ any
19 regulatory or certifying authority against a licensed real estate appraiser or
20 applicant premised ~~on~~ upon a finding that the person has engaged in
21 unprofessional conduct.

1 (B)(i) The term includes all sanctions of any kind, including
2 obtaining injunctions, refusing to grant or renew a license, suspending,
3 revoking, or restricting a license, and issuing warnings.

4 (ii) The term does not include monetary civil penalties imposed by
5 a hearing officer in relation to an express finding under 3 V.S.A. § 129(a)(3)
6 that the subject matter does not constitute unprofessional conduct.

7 (9) “Office” means the Office of Professional Regulation.

8 § 3312. PROHIBITIONS; PENALTY; EXEMPTION

9 (a) Unless licensed in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, ~~no~~ a
10 person ~~may~~ shall not:

11 (1) ~~Perform~~ perform an appraisal in a federally related transaction when
12 a licensed or certified appraiser is required by the Act; or

13 (2) ~~Use~~ use in connection with his or her name any letters, words, or
14 insignia indicating that he or she is a ~~state~~ State certified or licensed real estate
15 appraiser.

16 (b) An individual who violates a provision of subsection (a) of this section
17 shall be subject to the penalties provided in 3 V.S.A. § 127(~~e~~).

18 (c) A registered appraisal management company shall not be required to be
19 licensed in order to acquire and provide finished appraisals to third parties.

1 (c) Two ~~members~~ advisors shall be public members who shall have no
2 direct financial interest personally or through a spouse, parent, child, brother,
3 or sister in real estate appraising.

4 (d) One ~~member~~ advisor shall be a public member actively engaged in the
5 business of banking, including lending for the purpose of buying real property,
6 or shall be a person who is a consumer of appraisal services in the regular
7 course of his or her business.

8 § 3314. ~~BOARD~~ DIRECTOR; POWERS AND DUTIES

9 (a) The ~~Board~~ Director shall administer the provisions of this chapter in a
10 manner that conforms in all respects with the requirements of the Act.

11 (b) In addition to ~~it's~~ the Director's other powers and duties under this
12 chapter, the ~~Board~~ Director shall:

13 (1) Receive and review applications.

14 (2) Collect the registry fee as required by the Act and transmit that fee to
15 the ASC. The registry fee shall be in addition to State licensing and
16 registration fees.

17 (3) Annually publish a roster of all licensees and transmit the roster to
18 the ASC as required by the Act.

19 (4) Register appraisal management companies.

20 (5) ~~The Board may make~~ Make inquiries ~~it~~ he or she deems necessary
21 into the character, integrity, and reputation of the applicant.

1 § 3319. TEMPORARY PRACTICE

2 The ~~board~~ Director shall issue a temporary license to an individual, after
3 filing of an application and fee, who is a certified or licensed real estate
4 appraiser in another jurisdiction if all of the following apply:

5 (1) ~~The~~ the property to be appraised is part of a federally related
6 transaction for which a licensed or certified appraiser is required by the Act.;

7 (2) ~~The~~ the applicant's business is of a temporary nature. and

8 (3) ~~The~~ the applicant registers with the ~~board~~ Office.

9 § 3319a. APPRAISER TRAINEE REGISTRATION

10 (a)(1)(A) A person who has completed a course of instruction approved by
11 the AQB may work as a certified residential or certified general appraiser
12 trainee provided the person is registered with the ~~Board~~ Office.

13 (B) An appraiser trainee shall work under the direct supervision of an
14 appraiser who holds either a certified residential or a certified general license
15 in good standing and has held the certified residential or certified general
16 license for at least the minimum number of years required by the AQB.

17 (2)(A) An appraiser trainee may perform activities within the scope of
18 practice of the license sought, provided that the supervising appraiser reviews
19 and signs all resulting appraisals.

20 (B) The supervising appraiser shall be professionally responsible for
21 such activities performed by the trainee.

1 § 3321. RENEWALS

2 * * *

3 (c) The ~~Board~~ Director may reactivate the license of an individual whose
4 license has lapsed for more than 30 days upon payment of the renewal fee, the
5 reactivation fee, and the late renewal penalty, provided the individual has
6 satisfied all requirements of AQB for reactivation.

7 (d) The ~~Board~~ Director may require, by rule, as a condition of reactivation,
8 that an applicant undergo review of one or more aspects of the applicant's
9 professional work in the practice of real estate appraising, provided that the
10 manner and performance results of the review be specified by the ~~Board~~
11 Director. Such a review requirement shall:

12 * * *

13 § 3322. USE OF LICENSE NUMBER; CONSUMER FEE DISCLOSURE

14 (a)(1) Each licensee or registrant shall be assigned a license or registration
15 number ~~which~~ that shall be used in a report, a contract, engagement letter, or
16 other instrument used by the licensee or registrant in connection with the
17 licensee's or registrant's activities under this chapter. The license number
18 shall be placed adjacent to or immediately below the title the licensee is
19 entitled to use under this chapter.

20 (2) ~~The~~ Each licensed appraiser shall ensure that the registration number
21 and the appraiser's fee for appraisal services shall appear adjacent to or

1 immediately below the appraisal management company's registered name on
2 documents supplied to clients or customers in this ~~state~~ State.

3 (b) ~~The~~ Each licensed appraiser shall include within the body of the
4 appraisal report the amount of the appraiser's fee for appraisal services.

5 § 3323. UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT

6 (a) The following conduct by a licensee and the conduct set forth in
7 3 V.S.A. § 129a constitute unprofessional conduct. When that conduct is by an
8 applicant or a person who later becomes an applicant, it may constitute
9 grounds for denial of a license:

10 * * *

11 (8) Violating any term or condition of a license restricted by the ~~board~~
12 Office.

13 (9) Failing to comply with practice standards adopted by the ~~board~~
14 Director.

15 * * *

16 (d) ~~After hearing, and upon a finding of unprofessional conduct, the board~~
17 ~~may take disciplinary action against a licensee, applicant, or registrant.~~

18 ~~Without limitation, disciplinary action may include any of the following:~~

19 (1) ~~suspending or conditioning a license or registration;~~

20 (2) ~~requiring a licensee to submit to care or counseling;~~

1 ~~(3) requiring that a licensee practice only under supervision of a named~~
2 ~~person or a person with specified credentials;~~

3 ~~(4) requiring a licensee to participate in continuing education in order to~~
4 ~~overcome specified practical deficiencies;~~

5 ~~(5) limiting the scope of the licensee's practice. [Repealed.]~~

6 (e) Appeals from ~~decisions of the board~~ disciplinary orders and final
7 license denials shall be governed by the provisions of 3 V.S.A. § 130a.

8 § 3324. RECORD RETENTION

9 (a) A licensee or registrant shall retain all records related to an appraisal,
10 review, or consulting assignment for no less fewer than five years after
11 preparation.

12 (b) A licensee or registrant shall retain records under this section that relate
13 to a matter in litigation for two years after the litigation concludes or in
14 conformance with the “Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisal Practice,”
15 as promulgated by the Appraisal Standards Board of the Appraisal Foundation,
16 whichever period is longer.

17 (c) ~~With~~ Upon reasonable notice, a licensee or registrant shall ~~produce~~
18 provide to the Director for inspection and copying any records governed by
19 this section ~~for inspection and copying by the board or its authorized agent.~~

1 § 3325. REPORTING

2 An appraiser who reports to the ~~board~~ Director appraisal work ~~being~~
3 ~~performed which~~ that does not comply with the provisions of this chapter shall
4 not be considered to have violated the ethics provision of the uniform
5 standards of professional practice.

6 Sec. 22. TRANSITIONAL PROVISION; REAL ESTATE APPRAISER

7 RULES

8 On the effective date of Sec. 21 of this act (amending 26 V.S.A. chapter 69
9 (real estate appraisers)), the rules of the Board of Real Estate Appraisers shall
10 constitute the rules of the Director of the Office of Professional Regulation for
11 the practice of real estate appraisal.

12 * * * Acupuncturists * * *

13 Sec. 23. 26 V.S.A. chapter 75 is amended to read:

14 CHAPTER 75. ACUPUNCTURISTS

15 Subchapter 1. General Provisions

16 § 3401. DEFINITIONS

17 As used in this chapter:

18 (1) “Acupuncture” or the “practice of acupuncture” means the insertion
19 of fine needles through the skin at certain points on the body, with or without
20 the application of electric current or the application of heat to the needles or
21 skin, or both, for the purpose of promoting health and ~~balance as defined by~~

1 ~~traditional and modern Oriental theories. Acupuncture involves the use of~~
2 ~~traditional and modern Oriental diagnostic techniques, acupuncture therapy,~~
3 ~~and adjunctive therapies, including but not limited to: nonprescription~~
4 ~~remedies, exercise, nutritional and herbal therapies, therapeutic massage, and~~
5 ~~lifestyle counselling well-being or to prevent or alleviate pain or unease.~~

6 * * *

7 (4) ~~“Disciplinary action” includes any action taken by an administrative~~
8 ~~law officer appointed pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 129(j) against a licensed~~
9 ~~acupuncturist or applicant premised on a finding of unprofessional conduct.~~
10 ~~Disciplinary action includes all appropriate remedies, including denial of or~~
11 ~~renewal of a license, suspension, revocation, limiting, or conditioning of the~~
12 ~~license, issuing reprimands or warnings, and adopting consent orders.~~

13 (5) ~~“Secretary” means the secretary of state.~~

14 § 3401a. SCOPE OF PRACTICE

15 (a) A licensed acupuncturist may, in addition to the practice of acupuncture
16 employing fine needles, in a manner consistent with acupuncture theory,
17 employ electrical, magnetic, thermal, and mechanical skin stimulation
18 techniques; nonlaboratory diagnostic techniques; nutritional, herbal, and
19 manual therapies; exercise and lifestyle counseling; acupressure; and massage.

20 (b) A licensed acupuncturist shall not offer diagnosis of any human
21 pathology except for a functional diagnosis, based upon the physical complaint

1 of a patient or acupuncture theory, for purposes of developing and managing a
2 plan of acupuncture care, or as necessary to document to insurers and other
3 payers the reason a patient sought care.

4 § 3402. PROHIBITIONS; OFFENSES; EXEMPTIONS; EVALUATING
5 NONACUPUNCTURISTS

6 (a) Except as provided in subsections (d) through (g) of this section 3412 of
7 this title, a person shall not practice acupuncture unless he or she is licensed in
8 accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

9 * * *

10 (d) Nothing in subsection (a) of this section shall prevent a student from
11 performing acupuncture under the supervision of a competent licensed
12 acupuncturist instructor:

13 (1) within a school or a college or an acupuncture department of a
14 college or university that is licensed by the Vermont Agency of Education or
15 certified by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and Oriental
16 Medicine;

17 (2) as a student in a Director-approved apprenticeship; or

18 (3) as an intern in any hospital.

19 (e) Nothing in subsection (a) of this section shall prevent a person who is
20 licensed or certified as an acupuncturist in another state or Canadian province
21 from practicing acupuncture for no more than five days in a calendar year as

1 part of a health care professional educational seminar or program in Vermont,
2 if the educational seminar or program is directly supervised by a Vermont-
3 licensed health care professional whose scope of practice includes
4 acupuncture.

5 (f) This chapter shall not be construed to limit or restrict in any way the
6 right of a licensed practitioner of a health care profession regulated under this
7 title from performing services within the scope of his or her professional
8 practice.

9 (g) Nothing in subsection (a) of this section shall prevent an unlicensed
10 person from engaging in auriculotherapy, an unregulated practice wherein
11 needles are inserted into the external human ear, provided such person:

12 (1) has appropriate training in clean needle technique;

13 (2) employs sterile, single-use needles, without reuse;

14 (3) does not purport to treat any disease, disorder, infirmity, or
15 affliction;

16 (4) does not use any letters, words, or insignia indicating or implying
17 that the person is an acupuncturist; and

18 (4) makes no statement implying that his or her practice of
19 auriculotherapy is licensed, certified, or otherwise overseen by the State.

20 (h) The Director, with cooperation of the relevant professional regulatory
21 boards, shall monitor and evaluate whether nonacupuncturists employing

1 acupuncture as a therapeutic modality are doing so safely, within their scopes
2 of practice, and in a manner consistent with the public health, safety, and
3 welfare.

4 * * *

5 Subchapter 2. Administration

6 § 3403. DIRECTOR; FUNCTIONS

7 * * *

8 § 3404. ADVISOR APPOINTEES

9 (a)(1) ~~The secretary of state~~ Secretary of State shall appoint two licensed
10 acupuncturists to serve as advisors in matters relating to acupuncture as set
11 forth in 3 V.S.A. § 129b.

12 (2) Appointees shall have at least three years' experience as an
13 acupuncturist immediately preceding appointment and shall be actively
14 engaged in the practice of acupuncture in Vermont during incumbency.

15 (b) The ~~director~~ Director shall seek the advice of the acupuncturist advisors
16 in carrying out the provisions of this chapter. ~~They shall be entitled to~~
17 ~~compensation and necessary expenses in the amount provided in 32 V.S.A. §~~
18 ~~1010 for attendance at any meeting called by the director for that purpose.~~

19 Subchapter 3. Licenses

20 § 3405. ELIGIBILITY FOR LICENSURE

1 To be eligible for licensure as an acupuncturist, an applicant shall be at least
2 18 years of age and shall furnish satisfactory proof that he or she ~~has~~:

3 (1)~~(A)~~ ~~completed a program in acupuncture and Oriental medicine and~~
4 ~~has received~~ holds a degree or diploma from an educational institution ~~in~~
5 ~~and~~ ~~accredited~~ or accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture and
6 Oriental Medicine or ~~an~~ a substantially equivalent or successor accrediting
7 organization approved by the U.S. Department of Education and the Director.
8 ~~The training received in the program shall be for a period of not less than three~~
9 ~~academic years, and, which shall include at least two academic years and a~~
10 ~~minimum of 800~~ 400 hours of supervised clinical practice; ~~or~~

11 ~~(B) completed a training program no later than December 31, 2010~~
12 ~~with a preceptor approved by the Director where the training program is~~
13 ~~approved by the Director and begun prior to December 31, 2007 and which~~
14 ~~shall include earning a minimum of 40 points earned in any one of the~~
15 ~~following categories or combination of categories:~~

16 (i) ~~self directed study 10 points for study equivalent to one year of~~
17 ~~full time academic work in acupuncture and Oriental medicine, for a maximum~~
18 ~~of two years or 20 points;~~

19 (ii) ~~apprenticeship 10 points for each 1,000 documented contact~~
20 ~~hours, up to a maximum of 13.5 points per year;~~

1 ~~(iii) completed academic work in an accredited acupuncture~~
2 ~~program as described in subdivision (1) of this section five points for each six-~~
3 ~~month period of completed academic study in the field of acupuncture and~~
4 ~~Oriental medicine, up to a maximum of four periods or 20 points;~~

5 ~~(iv) preceptors shall be licensed and in good standing and meet the~~
6 ~~standards of the National Certification Commission for Acupuncture and~~
7 ~~Oriental Medicine in order to be approved, with no preceptor having more than~~
8 ~~two apprentices at any one time; and~~

9 (2) passed the examination described in section 3406 of this ~~title~~
10 chapter.

11 § 3406. EXAMINATION

12 (a) The ~~director~~ Director shall examine applicants for licensure and may
13 use a standardized national examination. The examination shall include the
14 following subjects:

15 (1) Anatomy and physiology.

16 (2) Traditional ~~Oriental~~ acupuncture pathology.

17 (3) Traditional ~~Oriental~~ acupuncture diagnosis.

18 (4) Hygiene, sanitation, and sterilization techniques.

19 (5) The principles, practices, and techniques of acupuncture ~~and Oriental~~
20 ~~medicine~~.

21 (6) Clean needle techniques.

1 (7) Chinese herbology for those licensed after January 1, 2007 who
2 intend to employ nonprescription remedies and herbal therapies.

3 (b) The ~~director~~ Director may adopt rules necessary to perform his or her
4 duties under this section.

5 § 3407. LICENSURE WITHOUT EXAMINATION

6 (a) The ~~director~~ Director may waive the examination requirement under
7 subdivision ~~3405(3)~~ 3405(2) of this ~~title~~ chapter if the applicant is an
8 acupuncturist regulated under the laws of another state who is in good standing
9 to practice acupuncture in that state and, in the opinion of the ~~director~~ Director,
10 the standards and qualifications required for regulation of acupuncturists in
11 that state are substantially equivalent to those required by this chapter.

12 (b) The ~~director~~ Director may waive the examination requirement under
13 subdivision ~~3405(3)~~ 3405(2) of this ~~title~~ chapter for an applicant who has
14 furnished evidence of having passed the examination administered by the
15 National Commission for the Certification of Acupuncturists.

16 * * *

17 § 3408. RENEWALS

18 (a) Licenses shall be renewed every two years upon payment of the
19 required fee and furnishing satisfactory evidence of having completed 30 hours
20 of continuing education credit during the preceding two years. The ~~director~~

1 Director may adopt rules for the approval of continuing education programs
2 and the awarding of credit.

3 ~~(b) Biennially, the director shall forward a renewal form to each licensed~~
4 ~~acupuncturist. Upon receipt of the completed form and the renewal fee, the~~
5 ~~director shall issue a new license.~~

6 ~~(c) A license that has expired for three years or less shall be renewed upon~~
7 ~~meeting the renewal requirements and paying a late renewal penalty. A license~~
8 ~~that has expired for more than three years shall not be renewed; the applicant~~
9 ~~shall be required to apply for reinstatement. The director may adopt rules~~
10 ~~relating to reinstatement to assure that the applicant is professionally qualified.~~

11 * * *

12 § 3410. ~~UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT~~

13 ~~(a) A licensed acupuncturist or applicant shall not engage in unprofessional~~
14 ~~conduct.~~

15 ~~(b) Unprofessional conduct means any of the conduct listed in this section~~
16 ~~and 3 V.S.A. § 129a, whether committed by a licensed acupuncturist or an~~
17 ~~applicant:~~

18 ~~(1) Using dishonest or misleading advertising.~~

19 ~~(2) Addiction to narcotics, habitual drunkenness, or rendering~~
20 ~~professional services to a patient if the acupuncturist is intoxicated or under the~~
21 ~~influence of drugs.~~

1 ~~(3) Sexual harassment of a patient.~~

2 ~~(4) Engaging in sexual intercourse or other sexual conduct with a patient~~
3 ~~with whom the licensed acupuncturist has had a professional relationship~~
4 ~~within the previous two years.~~

5 ~~(e) After hearing and upon a finding of unprofessional conduct, an~~
6 ~~administrative law officer appointed under 3 V.S.A. § 129(j) may take~~
7 ~~disciplinary action against a licensed acupuncturist or applicant. [Repealed.]~~

8 * * *

9 ~~§ 3412. ACUPUNCTURE DETOXIFICATION; SPECIALIZED~~

10 ~~CERTIFICATION~~

11 ~~(a) A person not licensed under this chapter may obtain a specialized~~
12 ~~certification as an acupuncturist to practice auricular~~
13 ~~acupuncture according to the National Acupuncture Detoxification Association~~
14 ~~protocol from the board for the purpose of the treatment of alcoholism,~~
15 ~~substance abuse, or chemical dependency if he or she provides documentation~~
16 ~~of successful completion of a board approved training program in acupuncture~~
17 ~~for the treatment of alcoholism, substance abuse, or chemical dependency~~
18 ~~which meets or exceeds standards of training established by the National~~
19 ~~Acupuncture Detoxification Association.~~

20 ~~(b) Treatment permitted under this section may only take place in a state,~~
21 ~~federal, or board approved site under the supervision of an individual licensed~~

1 ~~under this chapter and certified by the National Acupuncture Detoxification~~
2 ~~Association.~~

3 ~~(c) A person practicing under this section shall be subject to the~~
4 ~~requirements of section 3410 of this title.~~

5 ~~(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to modify any of the~~
6 ~~requirements for licensure of acupuncturists contained in this chapter, nor shall~~
7 ~~it grant any rights to practice acupuncture which exceed the scope of this~~
8 ~~section.~~

9 ~~(e) The fee for obtaining a specialized certification or renewal of a~~
10 ~~specialized certification under this section shall be that established in 3 V.S.A.~~
11 ~~§ 125(b).~~

12 ~~(f) Anyone certified under this section, while practicing the National~~
13 ~~Acupuncture Detoxification Association protocol, shall be referred to as an~~
14 ~~acupuncture detoxification technician. [Repealed.]~~

15 * * * Athletic Trainers * * *

16 Sec. 24. 26 V.S.A. chapter 83 is amended to read:

17 CHAPTER 83. ATHLETIC TRAINERS

18 § 4151. DEFINITIONS

19 As used in this chapter:

20 * * *

1 (3) “Athletic training” means the application of principles and methods
2 of conditioning, the prevention, immediate care, recognition, evaluation,
3 assessment, and treatment of athletic and orthopedic injuries within the scope
4 of education and training, the organization and administration of an athletic
5 training program, and the education and counseling of athletes, coaches, family
6 members, medical personnel, ~~and communities, and groups~~ in the area of care
7 and prevention of athletic and orthopedic injuries. ~~Athletic training may only~~
8 ~~be applied in the “traditional setting” and the “clinical setting”:~~

9 (A) ~~Without further referral, to athletes participating in organized~~
10 ~~sports or athletic teams at an interscholastic, intramural, instructional,~~
11 ~~intercollegiate, amateur, or professional level.~~

12 (B) ~~With a referral from a physician, osteopathic physician, advanced~~
13 ~~practice registered nurse, physician assistant, dentist, or chiropractor, to~~
14 ~~athletes or the physically active who have an athletic or orthopedic injury and~~
15 ~~have been determined, by a physician’s examination, to be free of an~~
16 ~~underlying pathology that would affect treatment.~~

17 * * *

18 (10) “Referral” means sending a ~~patient for treatment~~ determination,
19 recorded in writing, by an allopathic or osteopathic physician, advanced
20 practice registered nurse, dentist, or chiropractor, that an athlete or physically

1 active individual should be treated by an athletic trainer, and that such person
2 is free of an underlying pathology that would affect treatment.

3 (11) ~~“Settings” means any areas in which an athletic trainer may~~
4 ~~practice athletic training. These areas include:~~

5 (A) ~~“Traditional setting” means working with any organized sports or~~
6 ~~athletic teams at an interscholastic, intramural, instructional, intercollegiate,~~
7 ~~amateur, or professional level.~~

8 (B) ~~“Clinical setting” means an outpatient orthopaedic or sports~~
9 ~~medicine clinic that employs one of the following: physician, osteopathic~~
10 ~~physician, chiropractor, or physical therapist. [Repealed.]~~

11 (12) “Underlying pathology” means any disease process, including
12 neuromuscular disease, diabetes, spinal cord injuries, and systemic diseases.

13 § 4151a. PRACTICE CONTEXTS; REFERRAL REQUIRED FOR

14 CLINICAL CARE

15 (a) A person licensed under this chapter may provide athletic training:

16 (1) by formal engagement with a team, school, college, university,
17 league, or other sporting organization, to affiliated athletes participating in
18 organized sports or athletic teams at an interscholastic, intramural,
19 instructional, intercollegiate, amateur, or professional level;

20 (2) upon referral of an athlete or physically active individual to an
21 athletic training clinic;

1 ~~meet the requirements of section 4158 of this title. Temporary practice shall~~
2 ~~not exceed 60 days in any calendar year. [Repealed.]~~

3 § 4158. APPLICATION

4 ~~A person who desires to be licensed as an athletic trainer shall apply to the~~
5 ~~director in writing, on a form furnished by the director, accompanied by~~
6 ~~payment of a fee required pursuant to 3 V.S.A. § 125 and evidence that the~~
7 ~~applicant meets the requirements set forth in section 4156 or 4157 of this title.~~
8 ~~[Repealed.]~~

9 § 4158a. RENEWALS

10 ~~(a) Licenses shall be renewed every two years upon payment of the~~
11 ~~required fee.~~

12 ~~(b) Biennially, the director shall forward a renewal form to each license~~
13 ~~holder. Upon receipt of the completed form and the renewal fee, the director~~
14 ~~shall issue a new license.~~

15 ~~(c) Any application for renewal of a license which has expired shall be~~
16 ~~accompanied by the renewal fee and late fee. A person shall not be required to~~
17 ~~pay renewal fees for years during which the license was lapsed.~~

18 ~~(d) The director may, after notice and opportunity for a hearing, revoke a~~
19 ~~person's right to renew licensure if the license has lapsed for five or more~~
20 ~~years. [Repealed.]~~

1 § 4159. ~~UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT~~

2 ~~(a) A licensed athletic trainer shall not engage in unprofessional conduct.~~

3 ~~When such conduct is committed by an applicant, it shall be grounds for denial~~
4 ~~of the application or other disciplinary action.~~

5 ~~(b) Unprofessional conduct means the following conduct and conduct set~~
6 ~~forth in 3 V.S.A. § 129a:~~

7 ~~(1) Failing to make available to a person using athletic training services,~~
8 ~~upon that person's request, copies of documents in the possession or under the~~
9 ~~control of the practitioner, when those documents have been prepared for the~~
10 ~~user of services.~~

11 ~~(2) Conduct which evidences unfitness to practice athletic training.~~

12 ~~(3) Sexual harassment of a person using athletic training services.~~

13 ~~(4) Engaging in a sexual act as defined in 13 V.S.A. § 3251 with a~~
14 ~~person using athletic training services.~~

15 ~~(5) Any of the following except when reasonably undertaken in an~~
16 ~~emergency in order to protect life, health, or property:~~

17 ~~(A) Practicing or offering to practice beyond the scope permitted by~~
18 ~~law.~~

19 ~~(B) Performing athletic training services which have not been~~
20 ~~authorized by the consumer or his or her legal representative.~~

21 ~~(6) Conduct prohibited under any other laws relating to athletic training.~~

1 ~~(2) The Director may adopt rules necessary for the protection of the~~
2 ~~public to assure the Director that an applicant whose license has expired or~~
3 ~~who has not worked for more than three years as an applied behavior analyst or~~
4 ~~an assistant behavior analyst is professionally qualified for license renewal.~~
5 ~~Conditions imposed under this subsection shall be in addition to the other~~
6 ~~requirements of this section. [Repealed.]~~

7 * * *

8 § 4927. APPLICATIONS

9 ~~Applications for licensure and license renewal shall be on forms provided~~
10 ~~by the The Director shall promulgate applications for licensure and license~~
11 ~~renewal.~~ Each application shall contain a statement under oath showing the
12 applicant’s education, experience, and other pertinent information and shall be
13 accompanied by the required fee.

14 * * *

15 * * * Effective Date * * *

16 Sec. 26. EFFECTIVE DATE

17 This act shall take effect on July, 1, 2019.

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19
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1

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3 (Committee vote: _____)

4

5

Representative _____

6

FOR THE COMMITTEE