

Summary of the Finance-Related Provisions of
S.233 As Recommended by Senate Gov Ops
An act relating to uniform licensing standards

Prepared for the Senate Committee on Finance
See also [this overall summary](#)

Applicable professional regulatory entities. This bill applies to the following State professional regulatory entities:

- Office of Professional Regulation;
- Department of Environmental Conservation (for well drillers);
- Standards Board for Professional Educators;
- Electricians' Licensing Board;
- Board of Medical Practice; and
- Plumbers' Examining Board.

Uniform licensing standards. To summarize, the bill requires those professional regulatory entities to have uniform licensing standards in the following areas:

- *Military credentials; fees.* Evaluating military credentials and waiving application fees for qualified military members and spouses.
- *Criminal background.* Pre-application determinations regarding a potential applicant's criminal background.
- *Sunset review.* Periodic sunset reviews of the entity's continuing competency requirements.
- *Endorsement from other states.* Licensure by endorsement from other states based on three years of practice in good standing.
- *Foreign credential verification.* A process for foreign credential verification.

Effect on State revenue. The portions of the bill affecting the revenues of the State are as follows:

- ***Military fees.*** The bill requires the entity to determine qualifications and procedures by which the entity "shall, upon request, waive application fees to qualified military members and military spouses." *See:*
 - OPR in Sec. 2, 3 V.S.A. § 125(d).
 - **[No DEC]**

- Educators in Sec. 8, 16 V.S.A. § 1697(b).
- Electricians in Sec. 10, 26 V.S.A. § 905(h).
- BMP in Sec. 16, 26 V.S.A. § 1401a(a)(4).
- Plumbers in Sec. 19, 26 V.S.A. § 2193(e).
- ***Criminal backgrounds.*** The bill requires each entity to provide a pre-application determination of an individual’s criminal background (a.k.a. a “second chance” determination request). For each entity, the individual seeking this determination would pay a fee of **\$25**, which would be deducted from the license application fee if the applicant thereafter applied for licensure. *See:*
 - OPR in Sec. 1, 3 V.S.A. § 123(k)(2) and Sec. 2, 3 V.S.A. § 125(a)(5).
 - DEC in Sec. 5, 10 V.S.A. § 1395a(b)(2).
 - Educators in Sec. 7, 16 V.S.A. § 1695a(a)(2) and Sec. 8, 16 V.S.A. § 1697(a)(8).
 - Electricians in Sec. 9, 26 V.S.A. § 901(c)(2) and Sec. 10, 26 V.S.A. § 905(g).
 - BMP in Sec. 13, 26 V.S.A. § 1353(11)(B) and Sec. 16, 26 V.S.A. § 1401a(b)(5).
 - Plumbers in Sec. 18, 26 V.S.A. § 2181(f)(2) and Sec. 19, 26 V.S.A. § 2193(c)(8).