This act summary is provided for the convenience of the public and members of the General Assembly. It is intended to provide a general summary of the act and may not be exhaustive. It has been prepared by the staff of the Office of Legislative Counsel without input from members of the General Assembly. It is not intended to aid in the interpretation of legislation or to serve as a source of legislative intent.

## Act No. 77 (H. 305). An act relating to professions and occupations regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation

## **Subjects: Professions and occupations**

This act modifies misconduct discipline processes for professions and occupations regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation by reducing the number of appeals when an applicant is "pre-denied" a license on the basis of insufficient qualifications, as well as by enabling a board to designate a three-person panel in a disciplinary hearing or fully delegate the matter to an administrative law officer. The act also codifies remote continuing education course options for all professions and occupations regulated by the Office of Professional Regulation. The act adds cosmetology to what State correctional facilities may offer as courses of instruction without a certificate of approval. It also enables public health hygienists to use the silver modified atraumatic restorative technique. The act also modifies biennial license renewal requirements for osteopathic physicians. The act updates the duties and abilities of pharmacy technicians and adds specificity to what and to whom pharmacists may prescribe regarding self-administered hormonal contraceptives and vaccinations. It also exempts persons dispensing over-thecounter hearing aids from provisions for audiologists and hearing aid dispensers. This act corrects an incorrect cross-reference regarding the authority to perform notarial acts in the State of Vermont. This act also requires that an ongoing mental health professional licensure study also consider the potential certification of music and art therapists. Finally, this act amends the fees imposed by the Secretary of State's Office for advisor professions, board professions, and the Business Services division.

Effective Date: June 20, 2023