

Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing

Many bills in the 2018 General Assembly pertained to occupational and professional licensing. Below are the bills that will have an impact on the division and its licensees.

Bill Number	Bill Name	Effective Date	Description	Stakeholder Impact
HB 1656/ SB 843	State Real Estate Commission - Real Estate Guaranty Fund - Fund Transfer	Oct 1, 2018	Authorizing the State Real Estate Commission to transfer up to \$500,000 to the Real Estate Guaranty Fund from the State Real Estate Commission Fund if the amount in the Guaranty Fund falls below \$300,000 and the Commission is projected to have an operating surplus of at least \$500,000 in the current fiscal year.	Under this law, The Maryland Real Estate Commission may transfer money in the event of a \$500,000 surplus and the Guaranty fund being below \$300,000 if they see fit.
HB 1482/ SB 846	State Real Estate Commission - Brokers - Business Succession in the Event of Disability	Oct 1, 2018	Authorizing any adult family member of a disabled real estate broker to carry on the business of the disabled broker for 6 months for certain purposes subject to certain qualifications; requiring certain family members to surrender a certain certificate and pocket card and submit certain information to the State Real Estate Commission under certain circumstances; defining "disability" as a total and permanent disability that renders a broker unable to perform real estate brokerage services; etc.	Under this law, State Real Estate Commission receives information on succession and disability.
HB 200/ SB 64	State Commission of Real Estate Appraisers, Appraisal Management Companies, and Home Inspectors - Membership	Oct 1, 2018	Repealing the requirement that certain licensed home inspector members of the State Commission of Real Estate Appraisers, Appraisal Management Companies, and Home Inspectors be members of a certain home inspection organization or society; and requiring certain licensed home inspector members of the Commission to have held a license in the state for at least 5 years.	This law alters criteria for State Commission of Real Estate Appraisers, Appraisal Management Companies, and Home Inspectors.

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HB 64	Business Occupations - Real Estate Appraisers - Payment by Real Estate Appraisal Management Companies	Oct 1, 2018	Requiring an appraisal management company to pay the appraiser for each appraisal or valuation assignment, except under certain circumstances; decreasing from 60 to 45 the number of days after the completion of each certain appraisal or valuation assignment during which an appraisal management company must pay the appraiser, except under certain circumstances. Amendment allows Commission of Real Estate Appraisers to pursue action based on a complaint of an untimely payment.	Under this law, The Maryland Commission of Real Estate Appraisers may bring action against appraisal management companies that fail to pay appraisers within a 45 day period.
HB 67	Maryland Plumbing Act - Non-Water-Conserving Fixtures and Devices - Repeal of Criminal Penalties for Sale or Installation	Oct 1, 2018	Repealing certain criminal penalties for a violation of certain prohibitions against selling or installing a certain plumbing-related fixture or other device that is not water-conserving.	There are no longer criminal penalties for installing non-low flow fixtures.
HB 1597	Occupational Licenses or Certificates - Application Determinations - Use of Criminal History	Oct 1, 2018	Requires a report from DLLR, MDE, MDH, DHS, DPSCS disaggregated by year, regarding how many applications for an occupational license or certificate were received during the preceding 5 years, of the applications received, how many applicants had a criminal record that would be applicable under § 1-209 of the Criminal Procedure Article, how much time had passed since the criminal conviction, how many applications were denied on the basis that the applicant had previously been convicted of a crime, And of the applications denied, under which specific exemption in § 1-209(d) of the Criminal Procedure Article the license or certificate was denied.	This law requires a report from Occupational and Professional Licensing and Financial Regulation on previous 5 years of licenses denied on the basis of criminal history.

Bill Number	Bill Name	Effective Date	Description	Stakeholder Impact
HB 201/ SB 106	State Board for Professional Engineers - Examination Requirements - Engineer-in-Training	Oct 1, 2018	Authorizing individuals to apply to the State Board for Professional Engineers or a designee of the Board to take the Fundamentals of Engineering examination in order to obtain an engineer-in-training certificate; repealing certain requirements relating to the examination; authorizing a certain official of the Board to sign an engineer-in-training certificate; etc.	Under this law, Prospective engineers in training may apply to the Board of Engineers to take the Fundamentals of Engineering exam; The board must maintain an application for this purpose; The board must keep a record of individuals that passed this examination; the board must issue a certificate that the individual is an engineer in training.
HB 188/ SB 77	State Board of Architects and State Board for Professional Land Surveyors - Membership	Oct 1, 2018	Altering the eligibility criteria for membership on the State Board of Architects and the State Board for Professional Land Surveyors; requiring at least three members of the State Board of Architects to hold a professional degree from an architecture program accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board; requiring one member of the State Board for Professional Land Surveyors to be either a licensed property line surveyor or a professional land surveyor; etc.	This law alters criteria for State Board of Architects and Professional Land Surveyors.
HB 194	State Board of Individual Tax Preparers - Requirements to Register - Exemptions	Oct 1, 2018	Providing that certain individuals who sign individual tax returns as preparers are not exempt from the requirement to register with the State Board of Individual Tax Preparers.	Under this law, Individual tax preparers must register with State Board with Individual Tax Preparers, except for certain provisions.