

# Senate Executive Departments and Administration Committee

*Kevin Condict 271-7875*

**HB 82**, relative to the regulation of various occupations.

**Hearing Date:** April 9, 2025

**Time Opened:** 10:17 a.m.

**Time Closed:** 10:26 a.m.

**Members of the Committee Present:** Senators Pearl, McGough, Altschiller and Reardon

**Members of the Committee Absent :** Senator Gannon

**Bill Analysis:** This bill amends licensing statutes and the office of professional licensure and certification's governing statutes to shift certain responsibilities and regulation to the office, in keeping with prior legislation.

This bill amends statutes related to the regulation of (1) land surveyors, (2) landscape architects; (3) alcohol and other drug use professionals, (4) mental health practitioners, (5) professional engineers, (6) psychologists, (7) architects, (8) podiatrists, (9) the boxing and wrestling commission, (10) auctioneers, (11) electricians, (12) professional bondsmen, (13) nurse agency registration, (14) doula and lactation specialist certification, (15) manufactured housing licensing, (16) medical imaging professionals and radiation therapists, and (17) septic system evaluators.

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This bill is at the request of the office of professional licensure and certification.

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**Sponsors:**

Rep. C. McGuire

Rep. Grote

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**Who supports the bill:** Rep. Carol McGuire (Merr. 27), and Rep. Jaci Grote (Rock. 24).

**Who opposes the bill:** Heather Smith, Daniel Richardson, and Sarahlynn Williams.

**Who is neutral on the bill:** Dir. Dee Jurius (OPLC), Nik Frye (OPLC), and Steven Rancourt (ECBA).

**Summary of testimony presented:**

### **Representative Carol McGuire, Merrimack 27**

- Rep. McGuire introduced House Bill 82.
- Rep. McGuire explained that this bill is the last stage of statutory cleanup necessary from the creation of the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification (OPLC).
- Rep. McGuire said this bill includes several sections of statutory alignment that were in bills which were killed last year. She noted that there are a few other points in the bill, all regarding licensure.
- Rep. McGuire said that the House amendment fixed the criminal background check language and added in the position that a medical imaging technician's license was valid for every modality they are licensed for. She explained that someone read the statute and found that issue, so the amendment fixed that statute to align with the intent of the language.
- Rep. McGuire said this was a request of the OPLC.

### **Representative Jaci Grote, Rockingham 24**

- Rep. Grote explained that she was on the subcommittee that put the amendment together. She stated that the bill, as amended, passed through the House Executive Departments and Administration Committee unanimously.

### **Representative Carol McGuire, Merrimack 27 (continued)**

- Rep. McGuire said that the electricians would like a minor change to allow them to have subcommittees on their board. She said they asked for that change in the House, but it was not incorporated. She stated her support for Sen. Pearl's amendment which includes that language.

### **Steven Rancourt, Electrical Contractors Business Association**

- Mr. Rancourt said that some concern arose regarding the electricians' statute and their board's rules at the last meeting of the Board of Electricians.
- Mr. Rancourt said that the Electrical Contractors Business Association (ECBA) supports the bill as written, including the changes to RSA 319.
- Mr. Rancourt said the ECBA is looking for an amendment that would allow the Board of Electricians to have subcommittees. He said they have used subcommittees for years and it is stated in their rules that they may do so.
- Mr. Rancourt said that subcommittees are in the Board's rules but were not in statute. He said the amendment would allow the Board to establish subcommittees, which would be directed by the Board to investigate or make recommendations on matters which could be handled by the full board. He said

subcommittees are not needed by the Board often, but they are necessary every three years for code making. He explained that every three years the code changes so the testing must also be updated.

- Sen. Pearl noted that the proposed amendment was being distributed to the Committee.

**Deanna Jurius, Executive Director of the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification.**

**Nike Frye, Office of Professional Licensure and Certification**

- Dir. Jurius said she had not seen the amendment language. She said there are some boards that have specific subcommittee authorization. She suggested the wording of the amendment should be narrowed to specific code changes.
- Dir. Jurius noted an operational concern. She wondered if she would have to provide more support for board meetings if every board wants authorization in statute for subcommittees. She said that would increase the amount of weekly meetings. She said that narrowing the scope of that committee authorization would help ease her concern.
- Dir. Jurius noted that the only policy change in the bill is related to the Board of Electricians. She said the bill changes the window to take the electrician exam. She said that policy change was agreeable to both parties.
- Sen. Pearl asked where that change was located.
  - o Sen. Reardon said it is on page 11, line 36.
- Dir. Jurius said there was some vagueness regarding an application being opened in perpetuity and an individual could continue to take exams. She suggested narrowing that timeline.