As Passed by the Senate

132nd General Assembly

Regular Session 2017-2018

Sub. H. B. No. 420

Representatives Sykes, Boyd

Cosponsors: Representatives Boccieri, Ashford, Antonio, LaTourette, Lepore-Hagan, Ginter, Smith, K., Sprague, Howse, Riedel, Boggs, Kent, Carfagna, Kick, West, Sheehy, Brenner, Anielski, Blessing, Brinkman, Brown, Craig, Cupp, Edwards, Faber, Galonski, Gavarone, Green, Hagan, Hambley, Henne, Hill, Holmes, Hood, Hoops, Ingram, Johnson, Koehler, Landis, Lanese, Lang, Leland, McClain, Miller, O'Brien, Patterson, Patton, Pelanda, Perales, Ramos, Retherford, Roegner, Rogers, Romanchuk, Ryan, Schaffer, Scherer, Schuring, Smith, T., Sweeney, B., Thompson, Wilkin, Young, Speaker Smith

Senators Gardner, Hackett, Beagle, Burke, Brown, Eklund, Hottinger, LaRose, Lehner, Manning, Obhof, O'Brien, Peterson, Schiavoni, Skindell, Sykes, Tavares, Thomas, Uecker, Williams, Wilson, Yuko

A BILL

То	amend sections 4725.48, 4725.49, 4725.52,	1
	4747.04, 4747.05, 4747.06, 4747.07, 4747.08,	2
	4747.09, 4747.10, 4747.11, 4747.12, 4747.13, and	3
	4753.05, to amend section 5164.34 as it results	4
	from S.B. 229 of the 132nd General Assembly, and	5
	to enact section 5.2314 of the Revised Code to	6
	designate the month of November as Ohio Adoption	7
	Awareness Month, to modify the laws governing	8
	the Vision Professionals Board and Speech and	9
	Hearing Professionals Board, and to revise an	10
	exception to the prohibition against a Medicaid	11
	provider employing persons ineligible for	12
	employment because of criminal records check	13
	requirements.	14

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. That sections 4725.48, 4725.49, 4725.52,	15
4747.04, 4747.05, 4747.06, 4747.07, 4747.08, 4747.09, 4747.10,	16
4747.11, 4747.12, 4747.13, and 4753.05 be amended, that section	17
5164.34 as it results from S.B. 229 of the 132nd General	18
Assembly be amended, and that section 5.2314 of the Revised Code	19
be enacted to read as follows:	20
Sec. 5.2314. The month of November is designated as "Ohio	21
Adoption Awareness Month."	22
Sec. 4725.48. (A) Any person who desires to engage in	23
optical dispensing shall file a properly completed application	24
for an examination with the state vision professionals board or	25
with the testing service the board has contracted with pursuant	26
to section 4725.49 of the Revised Code. The application for	27
examination shall be made on using a form provided by the board	28
or testing service and shall be accompanied by an examination	29
fee the board shall establish by rule. Applicants must return	30
the application to the board or testing service at least sixty	31
days prior to the date the examination is scheduled to be-	32
administered.	33
(B) Any person who desires to engage in optical dispensing	34
shall file a properly completed application for a license with	35
the board with a licensure application fee of fifty dollars.	36
No person shall be eligible to apply for a license under	37
this division, unless the person is at least eighteen years of	38
age, is free of contagious or infectious disease, has received a	39
passing score, as determined by the board, on the examination	4 C
administered under division (A) of this section, is a graduate	41

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of an accredited high school of any state, or has received an	42
equivalent education and has successfully completed either of	43
the following:	44
(1) Two years of supervised experience under a licensed	45
dispensing optician, optometrist, or physician engaged in the	46
practice of ophthalmology, up to one year of which may be	47
continuous experience of not less than thirty hours a week in an	48
optical laboratory;	49
(2) A two-year college level program in optical dispensing	50
that has been approved by the board and that includes, but is	51
not limited to, courses of study in mathematics, science,	52
English, anatomy and physiology of the eye, applied optics,	53
ophthalmic optics, measurement and inspection of lenses, lens	54
grinding and edging, ophthalmic lens design, keratometry, and	55
the fitting and adjusting of spectacle lenses and frames and	56
contact lenses, including methods of fitting contact lenses and	57
post-fitting care.	58
(C) Any person who desires to obtain a license to practice	59
as an ocularist shall file a properly completed application with	60
the board accompanied by the appropriate fee and proof that the	61
applicant has met the requirements for licensure. The board	62
shall establish, by rule, the application fee and the minimum	63
requirements for licensure, including education, examination, or	64
experience standards recognized by the board as national	65
standards for ocularists. The board shall issue a license to	66
practice as an ocularist to an applicant who satisfies the	67
requirements of this division and rules adopted pursuant to this	68
division.	69

(D) (1) Subject to divisions (D) (2), (3), and (4) of this

section, the board shall not adopt, maintain, renew, or enforce

any rule that precludes an individual from receiving or renewing
a license as a dispensing optician issued under sections 4725.40
to 4725.59 of the Revised Code due to any past criminal activity
or interpretation of moral character, unless the individual has
committed a crime of moral turpitude or a disqualifying offense
as those terms are defined in section 4776.10 of the Revised
Code. If the board denies an individual a license or license
renewal, the reasons for such denial shall be put in writing.

(2) Except as otherwise provided in this division, if an individual applying for a license has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor that is not a crime of moral turpitude or a disqualifying offense less than one year prior to making the application, the board may use its discretion in granting or denying the individual a license. Except as otherwise provided in this division, if an individual applying for a license has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a felony that is not a crime of moral turpitude or a disqualifying offense less than three years prior to making the application, the board may use its discretion in granting or denying the individual a license. The provisions in this paragraph do not apply with respect to any offense unless the board, prior to September 28, 2012, was required or authorized to deny the application based on that offense.

In all other circumstances, the board shall follow the procedures it adopts by rule that conform to division (D)(1) of this section.

(3) In considering a renewal of an individual's license,

the board shall not consider any conviction or plea of guilty

prior to the initial licensing. However, the board may consider

a conviction or plea of guilty if it occurred after the

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service it contracts with, does all of the following:

examination;

(1) (a) Provides public notice as to the date, time, and

(2) Offers each qualifying examination at least twice

place for each examination at least ninety days prior to the

Sub. H. B. No. 420

Page 6

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apprenticeship,	the	apprentic	e shall	regist	ter a	ann [.]	ual	ly on	the	
form provided k	y the	e board or	- <u>and</u> in	the fo	orm (of	a st	tateme	ent.	

Each apprentice shall pay an initial registration fee of twenty dollars. For each registration renewal thereafter, each apprentice shall pay a registration renewal fee of twenty dollars.

The board shall not deny registration as an apprentice under this section to any individual based on the individual's past criminal history or an interpretation of moral character unless the individual has committed a disqualifying offense or crime of moral turpitude as those terms are defined in section 4776.10 of the Revised Code. Except as otherwise provided in this division, if an individual applying for a registration has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor that is not a crime of moral turpitude or a disqualifying offense less than one year prior to making the application, the board may use its discretion in granting or denying the individual a registration. Except as otherwise provided in this division, if an individual applying for a registration has been convicted of or pleaded quilty to a felony that is not a crime of moral turpitude or a disqualifying offense less than three years prior to making the application, the board may use its discretion in granting or denying the individual a registration. The provisions in this paragraph do not apply with respect to any offense unless the board, prior to September 28, 2012, was required or authorized to deny the registration based on that offense.

In all other circumstances, the board shall follow the procedures it adopts by rule that conform to this section. In considering a renewal of an individual's registration, the board shall not consider any conviction or plea of guilty prior to the

initial registration. However, the board may consider a	190
conviction or plea of guilty if it occurred after the individual	191
was initially registered, or after the most recent registration	192
renewal. If the board denies an individual for a registration or	193
registration renewal, the reasons for such denial shall be put	194
in writing. Additionally, the board may grant an individual a	195
conditional registration that lasts for one year. After the one-	196
year period has expired, the registration is no longer	197
considered conditional, and the individual shall be considered	198
fully registered.	199
A person who is gaining experience under the supervision	200
of a licensed optometrist or ophthalmologist that would qualify	201
the person under division (B)(1) of section 4725.48 of the	202
Revised Code to take the examination for optical dispensing is	203
not required to register with the board.	204
Sec. 4747.04. (A) The state speech and hearing	205
<u> </u>	
professionals board shall:	206
	206 207
professionals board shall:	
professionals board shall: (A) Design and prepare qualifying examinations for	207
professionals board shall: (A) Design and prepare qualifying examinations for licensing of hearing aid dealers, fitters, and trainees(1)	207 208
professionals board shall: (A) Design and prepare qualifying examinations for licensing of hearing aid dealers, fitters, and trainees(1) Establish the nature and scope of qualifying examinations in	207 208 209
professionals board shall: (A) Design and prepare qualifying examinations for licensing of hearing aid dealers, fitters, and trainees(1) Establish the nature and scope of qualifying examinations in accordance with section 4747.08 of the Revised Code;	207 208 209 210
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licenses and determine whether any license held by any nerven	210
licensee and determine whether any license held by any person	219
shall be revoked, suspended, or reissued (3) Review complaints	220
and conduct investigations in accordance with section 4747.13 of	221
the Revised Code and hold any hearings that are necessary to	222
<pre>carry out this chapter;</pre>	223
$\frac{(E)-(4)}{(2)}$ Determine and specify the length of time each	224
license that is suspended or revoked shall remain suspended or	225
revoked;	226
(F) Advise and assist the department of health in all	227
matters relating to this chapter;	228
(G) Deposit all payments collected under this chapter	229
into the state treasury to the credit of the occupational	230
licensing and regulatory fund created in section 4743.05 of the	231
Revised Code;	232
(H) (6) Establish a list of disqualifying offenses for	233
licensure as a hearing aid dealer or fitter, or for a hearing	234
aid dealer or fitter trainee permit, pursuant to sections	235
4747.05, 4747.10, 4747.12, and 4776.10 of the Revised Code.	236
(B) The board shall adopt reasonable rules, in accordance	237
with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, necessary for the	238
administration of this chapter. The board shall include all of	239
the following in those rules:	240
(1) The amount of any fees required under this chapter;	241
(2) The information to be included in a hearing aid	242
receipt provided by a licensed hearing aid dealer or fitter to a	243
person under section 4747.09 of the Revised Code;	244
(3) The amount of time a licensed hearing aid dealer or	245
fitter or trainee permit holder has to provide the notice of a	246

change in address or addresses required under section 4747.11 of	247
the Revised Code and any other requirements relating to the	248
<pre>notice;</pre>	249
(4) Any additional conduct for which the board may	250
discipline a licensee or permit holder under section 4747.12 of	251
the Revised Code.	252
(C) Nothing in this section shall be interpreted as	253
granting to the board the right to restrict advertising which is	254
not false or misleading, or to prohibit or in any way restrict a	255
hearing aid dealer or fitter from renting or leasing space from	256
any person, firm or corporation in a mercantile establishment	257
for the purpose of using such space for the lawful sale of	258
hearing aids or to prohibit a mercantile establishment from	259
selling hearing aids if the sale would be otherwise lawful under	260
this chapter.	261
Sec. 4747.05. (A) The state speech and hearing	262
professionals board shall issue to each applicant, within sixty	263
days of receipt of a properly completed application and payment	264
of-two hundred sixty-two dollars an application fee set by the	265
board in rules adopted under section 4747.04 of the Revised	266
<pre>Code, a hearing aid dealer's or fitter's license if the</pre>	267
applicant:	268
(1) In the case of an individual, the individual is at	269
least eighteen years of age, has not committed a disqualifying	270
offense or a crime of moral turpitude, as those terms are	271
defined in section 4776.10 of the Revised Code, is free of	272
contagious or infectious disease, and has successfully passed a	273
qualifying examination specified and administered by the board.	274
(2) In the case of a firm, partnership, association, or	275

corporation, the application, in addition to such information as	276
the board requires, is accompanied by an application for a	277
license for each person, whether owner or employee, of the firm,	278
partnership, association, or corporation, who engages in dealing	279
in or fitting of hearing aids, or contains a statement that such	280
applications are submitted separately. No firm, partnership,	281
association, or corporation licensed pursuant to this chapter	282
shall permit any unlicensed person to sell or fit hearing aids.	283

Page 11

- (B) (1) Subject to divisions (B) (2), (3), and (4) of this 284 section, the board shall not adopt, maintain, renew, or enforce 285 any rule that precludes an individual from receiving or renewing 286 a license issued under this chapter due to any past criminal 287 activity-or interpretation of moral character, unless the 288 individual has committed a crime of moral turpitude or a 289 disqualifying offense as those terms are defined in section 290 4776.10 of the Revised Code. If the The board denies shall 291 comply with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code when denying an 292 individual a license or license renewal, the reasons for such 293 denial shall be put in writing. 294
- (2) Except as otherwise provided in this division, if an 295 individual applying for a license has been convicted of or 296 297 pleaded quilty to a misdemeanor that is not a crime of moral turpitude or a disqualifying offense less than one year prior to 298 making the application, the board may use the board's discretion 299 in granting or denying the individual a license. Except as 300 otherwise provided in this division, if an individual applying 301 for a license has been convicted of or pleaded quilty to a 302 felony that is not a crime of moral turpitude or a disqualifying 303 offense less than three years prior to making the application, 304 the board may use the board's discretion in granting or denying 305 the individual a license. The provisions in this paragraph do 306

not apply with respect to any offense unless the board, prior to	307
September 28, 2012, was required or authorized to deny the	308
application based on that offense.	309
In all other circumstances, the board shall follow the	310
procedures it adopts by rule that conform to division (B)(1) of	311
this section.	312
(3) In considering a renewal of an individual's license,	313
the board shall not consider any conviction or plea of guilty	314
prior to the initial licensing. However, the board may consider	315
a conviction or plea of guilty if it occurred after the	316
individual was initially licensed, or after the most recent	317
license renewal.	318
(4) The board may grant an individual a conditional	319
license that lasts for one year. After the one-year period has	320
expired, the license is no longer considered conditional, and	321
the individual shall be considered fully licensed.	322
(C) Each (1) Except as provided in division (C)(2) of this	323
section, each license issued expires on the thirtieth day of	324
January of the year following that in which it was issued is	325
valid from the date of issuance until the thirty-first day of	326
December of the even-numbered year that follows the date of	327
<u>issuance</u> .	328
(2) A license issued less than one hundred days before the	329
thirty-first day of December of an even-numbered year is valid	330
from the date of issuance until the thirty-first day of December	331
of the even-numbered year that follows the thirty-first day of	332
December immediately after the date of issuance.	333
Sec. 4747.06. (A) Each person engaged in the practice of	334
dealing in or fitting of hearing aids who holds a valid hearing	335

aid dealer's or fitter's license shall apply annually to (1)	336
Except as provided in division (A)(2) of this section and	337
section 4747.12 of the Revised Code, a hearing aid dealer's or	338
fitter's license issued or renewed by the state speech and	339
hearing professionals board for renewal of such license under	340
this chapter shall be renewed biennially not later than the	341
thirty-first day of December in each even-numbered year and in	342
accordance with the standard renewal procedure specified in	343
Chapter 4745. of the Revised Code. The board shall issue to each	344
applicant, on receipt of a renewal application, proof of	345
completion of the continuing education required by division (B)	346
of this section—and—payment of—one hundred fifty—seven dollars—	347
on or before the first day of February, one hundred eighty-three-	348
dollars on or before the first day of March, or two hundred ten-	349
dollars thereafter a renewal fee, and, if applicable, a late fee	350
established by the board in rules adopted under section 4747.04	351
of the Revised Code, a renewed hearing aid dealer's or fitter's	352
license. No person who applies for renewal of a hearing aid	353
dealer's or fitter's license that has expired shall be required	354
to take any examination as a condition of renewal provided	355
application for renewal is made within two years of the date	356
such license expired.	357
(2) A person issued a license described in division (C)(2)	358
of section 4747.05 of the Revised Code shall renew that license	359
in accordance with the standard renewal procedure before it	360
expires as described in that division. After the first renewal,	361
the license shall be renewed in accordance with division (A)(1)	362
of this section.	363
(B) Each person engaged in the practice of dealing in or	364
fitting of hearing aids who holds a valid hearing aid dealer's	365
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or fitter's license shall complete each year not less than ten-

<pre>twenty hours of continuing professional education approved by</pre>	367
the board during each two-year period. On a form provided by the	368
board, the person shall certify to the board, at the time of	369
license renewal pursuant to division (A) of this section, that	370
in the preceding year—the person has completed continuing	371
education in compliance with this division and shall submit any	372
additional information required by rule of the board regarding	373
the continuing education. The board shall adopt rules in	374
accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code establishing	375
the standards continuing education programs must meet to obtain	376
board approval and continuing education reporting requirements.	377
Continuing education may be applied to meet the	378
requirement of this division if it is provided or certified by	379
any of the following:	380
(1) The national institute of hearing instruments studies	381
<pre>committee of the international hearing society;</pre>	382
(2) The American speech-language hearing association;	383
(3) The American academy of audiology.	384
The board may excuse persons licensed under this chapter,	385
as a group or as individuals, from all or any part of the	386
requirements of this division because of an unusual	387
circumstance, emergency, or special hardship.	388
Sec. 4747.07. Each person who holds a hearing aid dealer's	389
or fitter's license and engages in the practice of dealing in	390
and fitting of hearing aids shall display such license in a	391
conspicuous place in the person's office or place of business at	392
all times. Each person who maintains more than one office or	393
place of business shall post a duplicate copy of the license at	394

each location. The state speech and hearing professionals board

shall issue duplicate copies of a license upon <u>request by the</u>	396
<u>license holder and receipt of a properly completed application</u>	397
and payment of sixteen dollars for each copy requested any fee	398
established by the board in rules adopted under section 4747.04	399
of the Revised Code.	400
Sec. 4747.08. After July 1, 1970, no No person shall be	401
issued a hearing aid dealer's or fitter's license unless such	402
person has successfully taken and passed a qualifying	403
examination. The qualifying examination shall be a thorough	404
testing of knowledge required for the proper selecting, fitting,	405
and sale of hearing aids, but shall not be such that a medical	406
or surgical education is required for successful completion. It	407
shall consist of written and practical portions which shall	408
include, but not be limited to, the following areas:	409
(A) Basic physics of sound;	410
(B) The anatomy and physiology of the human ear;	411
(C) The function and purpose of hearing aids;	412
(D) Pure tone audiometry, including air conduction and	413
bone conduction testing;	414
(E) Live voice or recorded voice speech audiometry,	415
including speech reception threshold testing and speech	416
discrimination testing;	417
(F) Masking techniques;	418
(G) Recording and evaluation of audiograms and speech	419
audiometry to determine proper selection and adaption of hearing	420
aids;	421

(H) Earmold impression techniques.

The state speech and hearing professionals board shall	423
design, prepare, and revise such establish the nature and scope	424
of qualifying examinations as are determined that the board	425
determines necessary by the board pursuant to under this	426
chapter. It shall administer all such qualifying examinations	427
and shall designate the time, place, and date the examinations	428
are held. The board shall also furnish all materials and	429
equipment necessary for the conducting of all-qualifying	430
examinations.	431
Test materials, examinations, answer keys, or evaluation	432
tools used in a qualifying examination under this chapter,	433
whether administered by the board or by a private or government	434
entity pursuant to a contract, are not public records under	435
section 149.43 of the Revised Code.	436
Sec. 4747.09. (A) Each licensed hearing aid dealer or	437
fitter shall furnish each person supplied with a hearing aid a	438
receipt showing the licensee's signature, the number of his-	439
license certificate, the complete address of his place of-	440
business, a complete description of the make and model of-	441
hearing aid furnished, the full terms of sale, including the	442
terms of guarantee, if any, and if the hearing aid sold is not-	443
new, the receipt shall also be clearly marked "used" or	444
"reconditioned," whichever is applicable.	445
Each receipt shall also bear, in type no smaller than that	446
used in the body of the receipt, the following legend: "The-	447
purchaser is advised that any examination, fitting,	448
recommendation, or representation made by a licensed hearing aid-	449
dealer or fitter in connection with the sale of this hearing aid-	450
is not an examination, diagnosis, or prescription made by a	451
person licensed to practice medicine in this state and therefore	452

must not be regarded as medical opinion or advice that complies	453
with rules adopted by the state speech and hearing professionals	454
board under section 4747.04 of the Revised Code." Each	455
(B) Each licensed hearing aid dealer or fitter shall, when	456
dealing with a child sixteen years of age or less, ascertain	457
whether such child has been examined by an otolaryngologist	458
prior to being fitted for a hearing aid. If the licensee	459
determines that such examination has not taken place, he the	460
<u>licensee</u> shall recommend to the person legally responsible for	461
the custody of such child that such examination take place and	462
shall so state on a waiver to be specified by the board.	463
Sec. 4747.10. Each person currently engaged in training to	464
become a licensed hearing aid dealer or fitter shall apply to	465
the state speech and hearing professionals board for a hearing	466
aid dealer's and fitter's trainee permit. The board shall issue	467
to each applicant within thirty days of receipt of a properly	468
completed application and payment of one hundred fifty dollars	469
an application fee set by the board in rules adopted under	470
section 4747.04 of the Revised Code, a trainee permit if such	471
applicant meets all of the following criteria:	472
(A) Is at least eighteen years of age;	473
(B) Is the holder of a diploma from an accredited high	474
school or a certificate of high school equivalence issued by the	475
department of education;	476
(C) Has not committed a disqualifying offense or a crime	477
of moral turpitude, as those terms are defined in section	478
4776.10 of the Revised Code;	479
(D) Is free of contagious or infectious disease.	480
Subject to the next paragraph, the board shall not deny a	481

trainee permit issued under this section to any individual based	482
on the individual's past criminal history or an interpretation	483
of moral character -unless the individual has committed a	484
disqualifying offense or crime of moral turpitude as those terms	485
are defined in section 4776.10 of the Revised Code. Except as	486
otherwise provided in this paragraph, if an individual applying	487
for a trainee permit has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to	488
a misdemeanor that is not a crime of moral turpitude or a	489
disqualifying offense less than one year prior to making the	490
application, the board may use the board's discretion in	491
granting or denying the individual a trainee permit. Except as	492
otherwise provided in this paragraph, if an individual applying	493
for a trainee permit has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to	494
a felony that is not a crime of moral turpitude or a	495
disqualifying offense less than three years prior to making the	496
application, the board may use the board's discretion in	497
granting or denying the individual a trainee permit. The	498
provisions in this paragraph do not apply with respect to any	499
offense unless the board, prior to September 28, 2012, was	500
required or authorized to deny the application based on that	501
offense.	502

In all other circumstances not described in the preceding paragraph, the board shall follow the procedures it adopts by rule that conform to this section.

In considering a renewal of an individual's trainee permit, the board shall not consider any conviction or plea of guilty prior to the issuance of the initial trainee permit.

However, the board may consider a conviction or plea of guilty if it occurred after the individual was initially granted the trainee permit, or after the most recent trainee permit renewal.

If the The board denies shall comply with Chapter 119. of the

Revised Code when denying an individual for a trainee permit or	513
renewal, the reasons for such denial shall be put in writing.	514
Additionally, the board may grant an individual a conditional	515
trainee permit that lasts for one year. After the one-year	516
period has expired, the permit is no longer considered	517
conditional, and the individual shall be considered to be	518
granted a full trainee permit.	519
Each trainee permit issued by the board expires one year	520
from the date it was first issued, and may be renewed once if	521
the trainee has not successfully completed the qualifying	522
requirements for licensing as a hearing aid dealer or fitter	523
before the expiration date of such permit. The board shall issue	524
a renewed permit to each applicant upon receipt of a properly	525
completed application and payment of one hundred five dollars a	526
renewal fee set by the board in rules adopted under section	527
4747.04 of the Revised Code. No person holding a trainee permit	528
shall engage in the practice of dealing in or fitting of hearing	529
aids except while under supervision by a licensed hearing aid	530
dealer or fitter.	531
Sec. 4747.11. Each person who holds a hearing aid dealer's	532
or fitter's license or trainee permit shall notify the state	533
speech and hearing professionals board in writing of the place	534
or places where the person engages or intends to engage in the	535
practice of dealing in and fitting of hearing aids, and shall	536
immediately notify the board in writing of any change in such	537
address or addresses in accordance with rules the board adopts	538
under section 4747.04 of the Revised Code. The board shall keep-	539
a record of the past and current place of business of each-	540
person who holds a license or permit.	541

Any notice that is required to be given by the board to a

person holding a license or permit pursuant to the provisions of	543
this chapter shall be mailed to such person by certified mail to	544
the address of the person's current or most recent place of	545
business as revealed in the records of the board.	546
Sec. 4747.12. The (A) In accordance with Chapter 119. of	547
the Revised Code, the state speech and hearing professionals	548
board may revoke-or_,_suspend, place on probation, or refuse to	549
<u>issue or renew</u> a license or permit <u>or reprimand a licensee or</u>	550
<pre>permit holder if the person who holds such license or permit:</pre>	551
(A) (1) Is convicted of a disqualifying offense or a crime	552
of moral turpitude as those terms are defined in section 4776.10	553
of the Revised Code . The record of conviction, or a copy thereof	554
certified by the clerk of the court or by the judge in whose-	555
court the conviction occurs, is conclusive evidence of such-	556
<pre>conviction;</pre>	557
(B) (2) Procured a license or permit by fraud or deceit	558
practiced upon the board;	559
$\frac{(C)}{(3)}$ Obtained any fee or made any sale of a hearing aid	560
by fraud or misrepresentation;	561
(D) Knowingly employed any person without a license or a	562
person whose license was suspended or revoked to engage in the	563
fitting or sale of hearing aids;	564
$\frac{(E)}{(4)}$ Used or caused or promoted the use of any	565
advertising matter, promotional literature, testimonial,	566
guarantee, warranty, label, brand, insignia, or any other	567
representation, however disseminated or published, which is	568
misleading, deceptive, or untruthful;	569
(F) Advertised a particular model or type of hearing	570
aid for sale when purchasers or prospective purchasers	571

responding to the advertisement cannot purchase the specified	572
model or type of hearing aid;	573
$\frac{(G)-(G)}{(G)}$ Represented or advertised that the service or	574
advice of a person licensed to practice medicine will be used or	575
made available in the selection, fitting, adjustment,	576
maintenance, or repair of hearing aids when such is not true, or	577
using the words "doctor," "clinic," or similar words,	578
abbreviations, or symbols which connote the medical profession	579
when such use is not accurate;	580
(H) Is found by the board to be a person of habitual	581
<pre>intemperance or gross immorality;</pre>	582
(I) (7) Advertised a manufacturer's product or used a	583
manufacturer's name or trademark in a manner which suggested the	584
existence of a relationship with the manufacturer which did not	585
or does not exist;	586
$\frac{(J)}{(8)}$ Fitted or sold, or attempted to fit or sell, a	587
hearing aid to a person without first utilizing the appropriate	588
procedures and instruments required for proper fitting of	589
hearing aids;	590
$\frac{1}{1}$ (9) Engaged in the fitting and sale of hearing aids	591
under a false name or an alias;	592
$\frac{(L)}{(10)}$ Engaged in the practice of dealing in or fitting	593
of hearing aids while suffering from a contagious or infectious	594
disease;	595
$\frac{(M)-(11)}{(11)}$ Was found by the board to be guilty of gross	596
incompetence or negligence in the fitting or sale of hearing	597
aids;	598
(N) (12) Permitted another person to use the licensee's	599

license;	600
$\frac{(\Theta)-(13)}{(13)}$ Violate the code of ethical practice adopted	601
under section 4744.50 of the Revised Code;	602
(14) Made or filed a false report or record in the sale or	603
dispensing of a hearing aid;	604
(15) Aided or abetted the unlicensed sale, fitting, or	605
dispensing of a hearing aid;	606
(16) Committed an act of dishonorable, immoral, or	607
unprofessional conduct while engaging in the sale or practice of	608
dealing in or fitting of hearing aids;	609
(17) Engaged in illegal, incompetent, or habitually	610
<pre>negligent practice;</pre>	611
(18) Provided professional services while mentally	612
incompetent or under the influence of alcohol or while using any	613
narcotic or controlled substance or other drug that is in excess	614
of therapeutic amounts or without valid medical indication;	615
(19) Violated this chapter or any lawful order given or	616
rule adopted by the board;	617
(20) Is disciplined by a licensing or disciplinary	618
authority of this or any other state or country or is convicted	619
or disciplined by a court of this or any other state or country	620
for an act that would be grounds for disciplinary action under	621
this section;	622
(21) Engaged in conduct that the board has identified in a	623
rule adopted under section 4747.04 of the Revised Code as	624
requiring disciplinary action under this section.	625
(B) If the board revokes a person's license under division	626

(A) of this section, the person may apply for reinstatement. The	627
board may require the person to complete an examination or	628
additional continuing education as a condition of reinstatement.	629
Sec. 4747.13. (A) Any person who wishes to make a	630
complaint against any person, firm, partnership, association, or	631
corporation licensed pursuant to this chapter shall submit such	632
complaint in writing to the state speech and hearing	633
professionals board within one year from the date of the action	634
or event upon which the complaint is based. The board shall	635
determine whether the charges in the complaint are of a	636
sufficiently serious nature to warrant a hearing before the	637
board to determine whether the license or permit held by the	638
person complained against shall be revoked or suspended	639
disciplinary action. If the board determines that a hearing	640
disciplinary action is warranted, then it shall fix the time and	641
place of such hearing and deliver or cause to have delivered,	642
either in person or by registered mail, at least twenty days	643
before the date of such hearing, an order instructing the-	644
licensee complained against of the date, time, and place where-	645
the licensee shall appear before the board. Such order shall	646
include a copy of the complaint against the licensee proceed in	647
accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.	648
The board, and the licensee after receipt of the order and	649
a copy of the complaint made against the licensee, may take	650
depositions in advance of the hearing, provided that each party-	651
taking depositions shall give at least five days notice to the	652
other party of the time, date, and place where such depositions-	653
shall be taken. Each party shall have the right to attend with	654
counsel the taking of such depositions and may cross-examine the	655
deponent or deponents. Each licensee appearing before the board	656
may be represented by counsel. No person shall have the person's	657

present the person's case at a hearing before the board, and the	659
board shall grant a continuance or adjournment of a hearing date	660
for good cause. Each person whose license or permit is suspended	661
or revoked by the board may appeal such action to the court of	662
common pleas.	663
(B) The board shall investigate any alleged irregularities	664
in the sale or practice of dealing in or fitting hearing aids by	665
persons licensed or permitted under this chapter and any	666
violations of this chapter or rules adopted by the board. The	667
board shall not investigate any person exempted from licensure	668
by section 4747.15 of the Revised Code, provided the person is	669
acting within the scope of the person's license. In conducting	670
investigations under this division, the board may administer	671
oaths, order the taking of depositions, issue subpoenas, and	672
compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of books,	673
accounts, papers, records, documents, and testimony. In any case	674
of disobedience or neglect of any subpoena served on any person	675
or the refusal of any witness to testify to any matter regarding	676
which the witness may lawfully be interrogated, the court of	677
common pleas of any county where that disobedience, neglect, or	678
refusal occurs or any judge thereof, on application by the	679
board, shall compel obedience by attachment proceedings for	680
contempt, as in the case of disobedience of the requirements of	681
a subpoena issued from the court, or a refusal to testify	682
therein.	683
(C) The board shall petition the court of common pleas of	684
the county in which a person, firm, partnership, or corporation	685
engages in the sale, practice of dealing in or fitting of	686
hearing aids, advertises or assumes such practice, or engages in	687
training to become a licensed hearing aid dealer or fitter	688

license or permit revoked or suspended without an opportunity to-

without first being licensed, for an order enjoining any such	689
acts or practices. The court may grant such injunctive relief	690
upon a showing that the respondent named in the petition is	691
engaging in such acts or practices without being licensed under	692
this chapter.	693
Sec. 4753.05. (A) The state speech and hearing	694
professionals board may make reasonable rules necessary for the	695
administration of this chapter. All rules adopted under this	696
chapter shall be adopted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the	697
Revised Code.	698
(B) The board shall determine the nature and scope of	699
examinations to be administered to applicants for licensure	700
pursuant to this chapter in the practices of speech-language	701
pathology and audiology, and shall evaluate the qualifications	702
of all applicants. Written examinations may be supplemented by	703
such practical and oral examinations as the board shall	704
determine by rule. The board shall determine by rule the minimum	705
examination score for licensure. Licensure shall be granted	706
independently in speech-language pathology and audiology.	707
Test materials, examinations, answer keys, or evaluation	708
tools used in an examination for licensure pursuant to this	709
chapter, whether administered by the board or by a private or	710
government entity pursuant to a contract, are not public records	711
under section 149.43 of the Revised Code.	712
(C) The board shall publish and make available, upon	713
request, the licensure and permit standards prescribed by this	714
chapter and rules adopted pursuant thereto.	715
(D) The board shall investigate all alleged irregularities	716
in the practices of speech-language pathology and audiology by	717

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persons licensed or permitted pursuant to this chapter and any	718
violations of this chapter or rules adopted by the board. The	719
board shall not investigate the practice of any person	720
specifically exempted from licensure under this chapter by	721
section 4753.12 of the Revised Code, as long as the person is	722
practicing within the scope of the person's license or is	723
carrying out responsibilities as described in division (G) or	724
(H) of section 4753.12 of the Revised Code and does not claim to	725
be a speech-language pathologist or audiologist.	726

In conducting investigations under this division, the 727 board may administer oaths, order the taking of depositions, 728 issue subpoenas, and compel the attendance of witnesses and the 729 production of books, accounts, papers, records, documents, and 730 testimony. In any case of disobedience or neglect of any 731 subpoena served on any person or the refusal of any witness to 732 testify to any matter regarding which the witness may lawfully 733 be interrogated, the court of common pleas of any county where 734 such disobedience, neglect, or refusal occurs or any judge 735 thereof, on application by the board, shall compel obedience by 736 attachment proceedings for contempt, as in the case of 737 disobedience of the requirements of a subpoena issued from such 738 court, or a refusal to testify therein. 739

(E) The board shall conduct such hearings as are necessary to carry out this chapter.

Sec. 5164.34. (A) As used in this section:

- (1) "Criminal records check" has the same meaning as in section 109.572 of the Revised Code.
- (2) "Disqualifying offense" means any of the offenses 745 listed or described in divisions (A)(3)(a) to (e) of section 746

109.572 of the Revised Code.	747
(3) "Owner" means a person who has an ownership interest	748
in a medicaid provider in an amount designated in rules	749
authorized by this section.	750
(4) "Person subject to the criminal records check	751
requirement" means the following:	752
(a) A medicaid provider who is notified under division (E)	753
(1) of this section that the provider is subject to a criminal	754
records check;	755
(b) An owner or prospective owner, officer or prospective	756
officer, or board member or prospective board member of a	757
medicaid provider if, pursuant to division (E)(1)(a) of this	758
section, the owner or prospective owner, officer or prospective	759
officer, or board member or prospective board member is	760
specified in information given to the provider under division	761
(E)(1) of this section;	762
(c) An employee or prospective employee of a medicaid	763
provider if both of the following apply:	764
(i) The employee or prospective employee is specified,	765
pursuant to division (E)(1)(b) of this section, in information	766
given to the provider under division (E)(1) of this section.	767
(ii) The provider is not prohibited by division (D)(3)(b)	768
of this section from employing the employee or prospective	769
employee.	770
(5) "Responsible entity" means the following:	771
(a) With respect to a criminal records check required	772
under this section for a medicaid provider, the department of	773
medicaid or the department's designee;	774

(b) With respect to a criminal records check required	775
under this section for an owner or prospective owner, officer or	776
prospective officer, board member or prospective board member,	777
or employee or prospective employee of a medicaid provider, the	778
provider.	779
(B) This section does not apply to any of the following:	780
(1) An individual who is subject to a criminal records	781
check under section 3712.09, 3721.121, 5123.081, or 5123.169 of	782
the Revised Code;	783
(2) An individual who is subject to a database review or	784
criminal records check under section 173.38, 173.381, 3701.881,	785
or 5164.342 of the Revised Code;	786
(3) An individual who is an applicant or independent	787
provider, both as defined in section 5164.341 of the Revised	788
Code.	789
(C) The department of medicaid may do any of the	790
following:	791
(1) Require that any medicaid provider submit to a	792
criminal records check as a condition of obtaining or	793
maintaining a provider agreement;	794
(2) Require that any medicaid provider require an owner or	795
prospective owner, officer or prospective officer, or board	796
member or prospective board member of the provider submit to a	797
criminal records check as a condition of being an owner,	798
officer, or board member of the provider;	799
(3) Require that any medicaid provider do the following:	800
(a) If so required by rules authorized by this section,	801
determine pursuant to a database review conducted under division	802

(F)(1)(a) of this section whether any employee or prospective	803
employee of the provider is included in a database;	804
(b) Unless the provider is prohibited by division (D)(3)	805
(b) of this section from employing the employee or prospective	806
employee, require the employee or prospective employee to submit	807
to a criminal records check as a condition of being an employee	808
of the provider.	809
(D)(1) The department or the department's designee shall	810
deny or terminate a medicaid provider's provider agreement if	811
the provider is a person subject to the criminal records check	812
requirement and either of the following applies:	813
(a) The provider fails to obtain the criminal records	814
check after being given the information specified in division	815
(G)(1) of this section.	816
(b) Except as provided in rules authorized by this	817
section, the provider is found by the criminal records check to	818
have been convicted of or have pleaded guilty to a disqualifying	819
offense, regardless of the date of the conviction or the date of	820
entry of the guilty plea.	821
(2) No medicaid provider shall permit a person to be an	822
owner, officer, or board member of the provider if the person is	823
a person subject to the criminal records check requirement and	824
either of the following applies:	825
(a) The person fails to obtain the criminal records check	826
after being given the information specified in division (G)(1)	827
of this section.	828
(b) Except as provided in rules authorized by this	829
section, the person is found by the criminal records check to	830
have been convicted of or have pleaded guilty to a disqualifying	831

offense, regardless of the date of the conviction or the date of	832
entry of the guilty plea.	833
(3) Except as provided in division (I) of this section, no	834
medicaid provider shall employ a person if any of the following	835
apply:	836
(a) The person has been excluded from being a medicaid	837
provider, a medicare provider, or provider for any other federal	838
health care program.	839
(b) If the person is subject to a database review	840
conducted under division $(F)(1)(a)$ of this section, the person	841
is found by the database review to be included in a database and	842
the rules authorized by this section regarding the database	843
review prohibit the provider from employing a person included in	844
the database.	845
(c) If the person is a person subject to the criminal	846
records check requirement, either of the following applies:	847
(i) The person fails to obtain the criminal records check	848
after being given the information specified in division (G)(1)	849
of this section.	850
(ii) Except as provided in rules authorized by this	851
section, the person is found by the criminal records check to	852
have been convicted of or have pleaded guilty to a disqualifying	853
offense, regardless of the date of the conviction or the date of	854
entry of the guilty plea.	855
(E)(1) The department or the department's designee shall	856
inform each medicaid provider whether the provider is subject to	857
a criminal records check. For providers with valid provider	858
agreements, the information shall be given at times designated	859
in rules authorized by this section. For providers applying to	860

be medicaid providers, the information shall be given at the	861
time of initial application. When the information is given, the	862
department or the department's designee shall specify the	863
following:	864
(a) Which of the provider's owners or prospective owners,	865
officers or prospective officers, or board members or	866
prospective board members are subject to a criminal records	867
check;	868
(b) Which of the provider's employees or prospective	869
employees are subject to division (C)(3) of this section.	870
(2) At times designated in rules authorized by this	871
section, a medicaid provider that is a person subject to the	872
criminal records check requirement shall do the following:	873
(a) Inform each person specified under division (E)(1)(a)	874
of this section that the person is required to submit to a	875
criminal records check as a condition of being an owner,	876
officer, or board member of the provider;	877
(b) Inform each person specified under division (E)(1)(b)	878
of this section that the person is subject to division (C)(3) of	879
this section.	880
(F)(1) If a medicaid provider is a person subject to the	881
criminal records check requirement, the department or the	882
department's designee shall require the conduct of a criminal	883
records check by the superintendent of the bureau of criminal	884
identification and investigation. A medicaid provider shall	885
require the conduct of a criminal records check by the	886
superintendent with respect to each of the persons specified	887
under division (E)(1)(a) of this section. With respect to each	888
employee and prospective employee specified under division (E)	889

(1) (b) of this section, a medicaid provider shall do the	890
following:	891
(a) If rules authorized by this section require the	892
provider to conduct a database review to determine whether the	893
employee or prospective employee is included in a database,	894
conduct the database review in accordance with the rules;	895
(b) Unless the provider is prohibited by division (D)(3)	896
(b) of this section from employing the employee or prospective	897
employee, require the conduct of a criminal records check of the	898
employee or prospective employee by the superintendent.	899
(2) If a person subject to the criminal records check	900
requirement does not present proof of having been a resident of	901
this state for the five-year period immediately prior to the	902
date the criminal records check is requested or provide evidence	903
that within that five-year period the superintendent has	904
requested information about the person from the federal bureau	905
of investigation in a criminal records check, the responsible	906
entity shall require the person to request that the	907
superintendent obtain information from the federal bureau of	908
investigation as part of the criminal records check of the	909
person. Even if the person presents proof of having been a	910
resident of this state for the five-year period, the responsible	911
entity may require that the person request that the	912
superintendent obtain information from the federal bureau of	913
investigation and include it in the criminal records check of	914
the person.	915
(G) Criminal records checks required by this section shall	916
be obtained as follows:	917

(1) The responsible entity shall provide each person

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subject to the criminal records check requirement information	919
about accessing and completing the form prescribed pursuant to	920
division (C)(1) of section 109.572 of the Revised Code and the	921
standard impression sheet prescribed pursuant to division (C)(2)	922
of that section.	923
(2) The person subject to the criminal records check	924
requirement shall submit the required form and one complete set	925
of the person's fingerprint impressions directly to the	926
superintendent for purposes of conducting the criminal records	927
check using the applicable methods prescribed by division (C) of	928
section 109.572 of the Revised Code. The person shall pay all	929
fees associated with obtaining the criminal records check.	930
(3) The superintendent shall conduct the criminal records	931
check in accordance with section 109.572 of the Revised Code.	932
The person subject to the criminal records check requirement	933
shall instruct the superintendent to submit the report of the	934
criminal records check directly to the responsible entity. If	935
the department or the department's designee is not the	936
responsible entity, the department or designee may require the	937
responsible entity to submit the report to the department or	938
designee.	939
(H)(1) A medicaid provider may employ conditionally a	940
person for whom a criminal records check is required by this	941
section prior to obtaining the results of the criminal records	942
check if both of the following apply:	943
(a) The provider is not prohibited by division (D)(3)(b)	944
of this section from employing the person.	945

(b) The person submits a request for the criminal records

check not later than five business days after the person begins

conditional employment.	948
(2) Except as provided in division (I) of this section, a	949
medicaid provider that employs a person conditionally under	950
division (H)(1) of this section shall terminate the person's	951
employment if either of the following apply:	952
(a) The results of the criminal records check request are	953
not obtained within the period ending sixty days after the date	954
the request is made.	955
(b) Regardless of when the results of the criminal records	956
check are obtained, the results indicate that the person has	957
been convicted of or has pleaded guilty to a disqualifying	958
offense, unless circumstances specified in rules authorized by	959
this section exist that permit the provider to employ the person	960
and the provider chooses to employ the person.	961
(I) A—As used in this division, "behavioral health	962
services" means alcohol and drug addiction services, mental	963
health services, or both.	964
A medicaid provider of behavioral health services may	965
choose to employ a person who the provider would be prohibited	966
by division (D)(3) of this section from employing or would be	967
required by division (H)(2) of this section to terminate the	968
person's employment if both of the following apply:	969
(1) The person holds a valid health professional license	970
issued under the Revised Code granting the person authority to	971
provide behavioral health services, holds a valid peer recovery	972
supporter certificate issued pursuant to rules adopted by the	973
department of mental health and addiction services, or is in the	974
process of obtaining such a license or certificate.	975
(2) The provider does not submit any medicaid claims for	976

any services the person provides.	9.77
(J) The report of a criminal records check conducted	978
pursuant to this section is not a public record for the purposes	979
of section 149.43 of the Revised Code and shall not be made	980
available to any person other than the following:	981
(1) The person who is the subject of the criminal records	982
check or the person's representative;	983
(2) The medicaid director and the staff of the department	984
who are involved in the administration of the medicaid program;	985
(3) The department's designee;	986
(4) The medicaid provider who required the person who is	987
the subject of the criminal records check to submit to the	988
criminal records check;	989
(5) An individual receiving or deciding whether to	990
receive, from the subject of the criminal records check, home	991
and community-based services available under the medicaid state	992
plan;	993
(6) A court, hearing officer, or other necessary	994
individual involved in a case dealing with any of the following:	995
(a) The denial or termination of a provider agreement;	996
(b) A person's denial of employment, termination of	997
employment, or employment or unemployment benefits;	998
(c) A civil or criminal action regarding the medicaid	999
program.	1000
(K) The medicaid director may adopt rules under section	1001
5164.02 of the Revised Code to implement this section. If the	1002
director adopts such rules, the rules shall designate the times	1003

at which a criminal records check must be conducted under this	1004
section. The rules may do any of the following:	1005
(1) Designate the categories of persons who are subject to	1006
a criminal records check under this section;	1007
(2) Specify circumstances under which the department or	1008
the department's designee may continue a provider agreement or	1009
issue a provider agreement when the medicaid provider is found	1010
by a criminal records check to have been convicted of or pleaded	1011
guilty to a disqualifying offense;	1012
(3) Specify circumstances under which a medicaid provider	1013
may permit a person to be an employee, owner, officer, or board	1014
member of the provider when the person is found by a criminal	1015
records check conducted pursuant to this section to have been	1016
convicted of or have pleaded guilty to a disqualifying offense;	1017
(4) Specify all of the following:	1018
(a) The circumstances under which a database review must	1019
be conducted under division (F)(1)(a) of this section to	1020
determine whether an employee or prospective employee of a	1021
medicaid provider is included in a database;	1022
(b) The procedures for conducting the database review;	1023
(c) The databases that are to be checked;	1024
(d) The circumstances under which, except as provided in	1025
division (I) of this section, a medicaid provider is prohibited	1026
from employing a person who is found by the database review to	1027
be included in a database.	1028
Section 2. That existing sections 4725.48, 4725.49,	1029
4725.52, 4747.04, 4747.05, 4747.06, 4747.07, 4747.08, 4747.09,	1030
4747.10, 4747.11, 4747.12, 4747.13, and 4753.05 of the Revised	1031

Code are hereby repealed.	1032
Section 3. That existing section 5164.34 of the Revised	1033
Code as it results from S.B. 229 of the 132nd General Assembly	1034
is hereby repealed.	1035
Section 4. (A) As used in this section, "licensee" means a	1036
person holding a license as a hearing aid dealer or fitter under	1037
Chapter 4747. of the Revised Code issued on or before the	1038
effective date of this act.	1039
(B) Notwithstanding sections 4747.05 and 4747.06 of the	1040
Revised Code, as amended by this act, a licensee who intends to	1041
renew the licensee's license under former section 4747.06 of the	1042
Revised Code shall complete, during the period between January	1043
1, 2019, and January 30, 2020, not less than ten hours of	1044
continuing professional education approved by the State Speech	1045
and Hearing Professionals Board. Not later than January 30,	1046
2020, the licensee shall certify to the Board, on a form	1047
provided by the Board, that the licensee has completed the	1048
continuing education required by this division and shall submit	1049
any additional information required by the Board regarding the	1050
continuing education. The license of a licensee who complies	1051
with the requirements of this division expires on December 31,	1052
2021.	1053
(C) Not later than January 30, 2020, a licensee who does	1054
not intend to renew the licensee's license under former section	1055
4747.06 of the Revised Code shall certify to the Board, on a	1056
form provided by the Board, that the licensee does not intend to	1057
renew under former section 4747.06 of the Revised Code. The	1058
licensee's license expires on January 31, 2020.	1059

(D) The license of a licensee who fails to comply with

Sub. H. B. No. 420 As Passed by the Senate	Page 38
division (B) or (C) of this section expires on January 31, 2020.	1061
The person may apply for a new license in accordance with	1062
section 4747.05 of the Revised Code, as amended by this act.	1063
(E) The Board shall provide, not later than November 1,	1064
2019, notice of the requirements of this section to all	1065
licensees.	1066