

Bill Summary
1st Session of the 58th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 1691
Version:	HASB
Request No.:	
Author:	Sen. Taylor
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Bill Analysis

SB 1691 provides that conviction, plea of guilty, nolo contendere, or pending criminal charges shall be grounds for licensure denial only if the underlying offense substantially relates to the duties and responsibilities of the occupation and poses a reasonable threat to public safety, health, or welfare. Each licensing board shall be required to consider the seriousness of the crime, the amount of time that passed since the conviction, the age of the person at the time the crime was committed, evidence relevant to the circumstances of the offense, and evidence of rehabilitation as it determines an applicant. The measure also provides that denial of licensure may not occur if the arrest was not followed with conviction unless charges are pending, the conviction was pardoned or expunged, or more than 5 years have elapsed since the date of conviction or release from incarceration if the conditions outlined in the measure are met. Authorities denying an application must provide the reasoning for the denial, including naming the specific conviction. The measure requires the board to notify the applicant to submit additional evidence relevant to each of the factors listed within 30 days of the denial. The measure directs each licensing entity to publish information relating to these procedures and considerations on their respective websites. The provisions of this measure shall not apply to the Council on Law Enforcement Education and Training, the Bail Bonds Division of the Oklahoma Insurance Department, the State Board of Education, or individuals applying to these authorities for licensure or certification.

House Amendments

HA's to the measure adds language providing that a plea of guilty or nolo contendere shall also apply as it relates to grounds for licensure denial. Additionally, the board shall consider public health and welfare in addition to public safety. The Bail Bonds Division of the Oklahoma Insurance Department is added to the list of exempted entities.

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