Bill Summary 2nd Session of the 58th Legislature

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Author: Sen. Taylor
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Bill Analysis

SB 1691 provides that conviction or 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. 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.

Prepared by: Kalen Taylor