

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 2, 2016

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 31, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 131

Introduced by Assembly Member Patterson

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chávez, Gordon, ~~and Wilk~~ Wilk, Achadjian, Travis Allen, Arambula, Atkins, Baker, Bigelow, Bloom, Bonilla, Bonta, Brown, Burke, Calderon, Campos, Chang, Chau, Chiu, Chu, Cooley, Cooper, Dababneh, Dahle, Daly, Dodd, Frazier, Gallagher, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Gatto, Gipson, Gomez, Grove, Hadley, Harper, Holden, Irwin, Jones, Jones-Sawyer, Kim, Lackey, Levine, Lopez, Low, Maienschein, Mathis, Mayes, Medina, Melendez, Mullin, O'Donnell, Quirk, Rendon, Ridley-Thomas, Rodriguez, Salas, Steinorth, Wagner, Waldron, Weber, Williams, and Wood)

(Coauthor: Senator Anderson)

February 2, 2016

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 131—Relative to professions and vocations.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 131, as amended, Patterson. Professions and vocations: licensing fees: equity.

This measure would encourage the Department of Consumer Affairs and its boards, bureaus, and committees to create policies that promote fairness and equity to guarantee that each licensee pays a fair amount, especially in regard to initial and ongoing license fees.

Fiscal committee: yes.

1 WHEREAS, Existing law provides for the licensure and
2 regulation of various professions and vocations by boards, bureaus,
3 and committees within the Department of Consumer Affairs,
4 including, among others, accountants, acupuncturists, architects,
5 athletes, automotive mechanics, barbers and cosmetologists,
6 chiropractors, contractors, court reporters, dental hygienists,
7 dentists, doctors, engineers, fiduciaries, marriage and family
8 therapists, nurses, optometrists, osteopathic physicians and
9 surgeons, pharmacists, physical therapists, physician assistants,
10 private schools, private guards and other security-related jobs,
11 psychologists, realtors, respiratory care practitioners, speech
12 pathologists, social workers, and veterinarians; and

13 WHEREAS, The mission of many of the boards, bureaus, and
14 committees within the Department of Consumer Affairs is to
15 protect people and promote the health and safety of Californians
16 by licensing and regulating various professions and vocations; and

17 WHEREAS, Hardworking individuals must often complete
18 hundreds of hours of professional training requirements, including,
19 but not limited to, education, schooling, internships, or other
20 requirements, to meet professional licensing standards in order to
21 be licensed by the State of California and pursue their profession;
22 and

23 WHEREAS, Existing law establishes fees for initial licenses,
24 initial temporary and permanent licenses, and original licenses for
25 those various professions and vocations; and

26 WHEREAS, Licensees may spend up to hundreds of dollars for
27 their initial license and pay thousands of dollars to the State of
28 California over their career to maintain their license, not including
29 the thousands of dollars licensees may pay to put themselves
30 through training or educational programs to gain the skills needed
31 for a given profession; and

32 WHEREAS, Existing law requires that licenses issued to certain
33 licensees expire at 12 a.m. on either the last day of the birth month
34 of the licensee or at 12 a.m. of the legal birth date of the licensee
35 during the 2nd year of a 2-year term if not renewed, yet fails to
36 provide licensees the opportunity to prorate their initial licensing
37 fee to the specific amount of time actually licensed; and

38 WHEREAS, The Legislature supports an equitable licensing
39 fee policy that would prorate license fees based on how many
40 months have elapsed between the initial issuance of a license and

1 the time of renewal, as stated in Assembly Bill 483 of the 2015–16
2 Regular Session, which was unanimously passed by the Senate
3 and passed by the Assembly with a vote of 78-0; and

4 WHEREAS, The Legislature recognizes the important and
5 valuable services that those licensees provide to the state; now,
6 therefore, be it

7 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
8 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature encourages the Department
9 of Consumer Affairs and its boards, bureaus, and commissions to
10 create policies that promote fairness and equity to guarantee that
11 each licensee pays a fair amount, especially in regard to initial and
12 ongoing license fees; and be it further

13 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
14 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.