



## MEMORANDUM

Nevin Rentzel, Chair State Board of Auctioneer Examiners P.O. Box 2649 Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

Dear Chair Rentzel:

As the respective chairs of the House and Senate Professional Licensure Committees, we are writing today to urge prompt promulgation of regulations to implement licensure by endorsement provisions as required by Act 41 of 2019.

Act 41 created an additional pathway for the licensing boards and commissions under the Bureau of Professional and Occupational Affairs to consider applicants licensed in other jurisdictions with the intent to reduce unnecessary barriers for new residents, veterans, military spouses and other individuals who wish to move to and work in Pennsylvania. Act 41 is a result of bipartisan effort and mutual recognition that licensed professionals from other jurisdictions often times have difficulty obtaining a license to practice in this Commonwealth, which can mean a lack of income, lost employment opportunities or even a decision to not move into our state.

Act 41 specifically required promulgation of final regulations by each licensing board and commission within 18 months in order to formally implement rules and procedures to process and consider endorsement applications. Thus, all licensing boards and commissions should have published <u>final</u> regulations by February 28, 2021.

To date, only *two* boards--The State Board of Psychology and the State Registration Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists--have published final regulations. As per the Governor's Office Regulatory Agenda published in the Pennsylvania Bulletin on March 26, 2022, the remaining boards and commissions have either only issued proposed regulations or are only entering the proposed rulemaking stage.

While the boards and commissions may be utilizing Act 41 on a case-by-case basis, there is no consistent means for applicants to know the process in Pennsylvania. This lack of regulatory activity to implement Act 41 has continued to cause a barrier to employment for applicants from other states. As Pennsylvania continues to experience a severe workforce shortage, especially in

health care, we should be doing everything we can to move these professionals into the workforce without the delays we are currently experiencing.

Therefore, we urge the State Board of Auctioneer Examiners to prioritize the promulgation of Act 41 regulations and request a response with a detailed explanation for the delay and a detailed timeline outlining the plan for promulgation within 20 days of receipt of this correspondence. We look forward to your prompt response.

Sincerely,

Representative David Hickernell

Majority Chairman

House Professional Licensure Committee

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Senator Robert M. Tomlinson

Majority Chairman

Senate Consumer Protection and Professional

Licensure Committee

Representative Frank Burns

Minority Chairman

House Professional Licensure Committee

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Senator Lisa Boscola

Minority Chairwoman

Senate Consumer Protection and Professional

Licensure Committee

cc: Arion Claggett, Acting Commissioner, BPOA

Kalonji Johnson, Deputy Secretary for Regulatory Programs, DOS

Michael Chmielewski, Legislation Liaison, DOS