Bill No. CS for SB 1028

Amendment No. ____

	Senate House
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11	Senator Campbell moved the following amendment:
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13	Senate Amendment (with title amendment)
14	Delete everything after the enacting clause
15	
16	and insert:
17	Section 1. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 455.564,
18	Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
19	455.564 Department; general licensing provisions
20	(1) (a) Any person desiring to be licensed in a
21	profession within the jurisdiction of the department shall
22	apply to the department in writing to take the licensure
23	examination. The application shall be made on a form prepared
24	and furnished by the department. The application form must be
25	available on the World Wide Web and the department may accept
26	electronically submitted applications beginning July 1, 2001.
27	The application and shall require the social security number
28	of the applicant, except as provided in paragraph (b). The
29	form shall be supplemented as needed to reflect any material
30	change in any circumstance or condition stated in the
31	application which takes place between the initial filing of
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the application and the final grant or denial of the license and which might affect the decision of the department. If an application is submitted electronically, the department may require supplemental materials, including an original signature of the applicant and verification of credentials, to be submitted in a non-electronic format. An incomplete application shall expire 1 year after initial filing. In order to further the economic development goals of the state, and notwithstanding any law to the contrary, the department may enter into an agreement with the county tax collector for the purpose of appointing the county tax collector as the department's agent to accept applications for licenses and applications for renewals of licenses. The agreement must specify the time within which the tax collector must forward any applications and accompanying application fees to the department.

(b) If an applicant has not been issued a social security number by the Federal Government at the time of application because the applicant is not a citizen or resident of this country, the department may process the application using a unique personal identification number. If such an applicant is otherwise eligible for licensure, the board, or the department when there is no board, may issue a temporary license to the applicant, which shall expire 30 days after issuance unless a social security number is obtained and submitted in writing to the department. Upon receipt of the applicant's social security number, the department shall issue a new license, which shall expire at the end of the current biennium.

(3)(a) The board, or the department when there is no 31 | board, may refuse to issue an initial license to any applicant

who is under investigation or prosecution in any jurisdiction for an action that would constitute a violation of this part or the professional practice acts administered by the department and the boards, until such time as the investigation or prosecution is complete, and the time period in which the licensure application must be granted or denied shall be tolled until 15 days after the receipt of the final results of the investigation or prosecution.

- (b) If an applicant has been convicted of a felony related to the practice or ability to practice any health care profession, the board, or the department when there is no board, may require the applicant to prove that his or her civil rights have been restored.
- (c) In considering applications for licensure, the board, or the department when there is no board, may require a personal appearance of the applicant. If the applicant is required to appear, the time period in which a licensure application must be granted or denied shall be tolled until such time as the applicant appears. However, if the applicant fails to appear before the board at either of the next two regularly scheduled board meetings, or fails to appear before the department within 30 days if there is no board, the application for licensure shall be denied.

Section 2. Paragraph (d) is added to subsection (4) of section 455.565, Florida Statutes, to read:

455.565 Designated health care professionals; information required for licensure.--

(4)

(d) Any applicant for initial licensure or renewal of licensure as a health care practitioner who submits to the Department of Health a set of fingerprints or information

required for the criminal history check required under this 1 2 section shall not be required to provide a subsequent set of 3 fingerprints or other duplicate information required for a 4 criminal history check to the Agency for Health Care Administration, the Department of Juvenile Justice, or the 5 Department of Children and Family Services for employment or 6 licensure with such agency or department if the applicant has 7 8 undergone a criminal history check as a condition of initial licensure or licensure renewal as a health care practitioner 9 10 with the Department of Health or any of its regulatory boards, 11 notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary. In 12 lieu of such duplicate submission, the Agency for Health Care 13 Administration, the Department of Juvenile Justice, and the 14 Department of Children and Family Services shall obtain 15 criminal history information for employment or licensure of 16 health care practitioners by such agency and departments from 17 the Department of Health's health care practitioner 18 credentialing system.

Section 3. Section 455.5651, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

455.5651 Practitioner profile; creation.--

- (1) Beginning July 1, 1999, the Department of Health shall compile the information submitted pursuant to s. 455.565 into a practitioner profile of the applicant submitting the information, except that the Department of Health may develop a format to compile uniformly any information submitted under s. 455.565(4)(b).
- (2) On the profile published required under subsection (1), the department shall indicate if the information provided under s. 455.565(1)(a)7. is not corroborated by a criminal 31 history check conducted according to this subsection. If the

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29 30 information provided under s. 455.565(1)(a)7. is corroborated by the criminal history check, the fact that the criminal history check was performed need not be indicated on the profile. The department, or the board having regulatory authority over the practitioner acting on behalf of the department, shall investigate any information received by the department or the board when it has reasonable grounds to believe that the practitioner has violated any law that relates to the practitioner's practice.

- (3) The Department of Health may include in each practitioner's practitioner profile that criminal information that directly relates to the practitioner's ability to competently practice his or her profession. The department must include in each practitioner's practitioner profile the following statement: "The criminal history information, if any exists, may be incomplete; federal criminal history information is not available to the public." The department shall not publish a criminal conviction if such conviction has been sealed, expunged, or pardoned.
- (4) The Department of Health shall include, with respect to a practitioner licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459, a statement of how the practitioner has elected to comply with the financial responsibility requirements of s. 458.320 or s. 459.0085. The department shall include, with respect to practitioners subject to s. 455.694, a statement of how the practitioner has elected to comply with the financial responsibility requirements of that section. The department shall include, with respect to practitioners licensed under chapter 458, chapter 459, or chapter 461, information relating to liability actions which has been reported under s. 455.697 31 or s. 627.912 within the previous 10 years for any paid claim

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29 30 that exceeds \$5,000. Such claims information shall be reported in the context of comparing an individual practitioner's claims to the experience of other practitioners physicians within the same specialty, or profession if the practitioner is not a specialist, to the extent such information is available to the Department of Health. If information relating to a liability action is included in a practitioner's practitioner profile, the profile must also include the following statement: "Settlement of a claim may occur for a variety of reasons that do not necessarily reflect negatively on the professional competence or conduct of the practitioner physician. A payment in settlement of a medical malpractice action or claim should not be construed as creating a presumption that medical malpractice has occurred."

- (5) The Department of Health may not include disciplinary action taken by a licensed hospital or an ambulatory surgical center in the practitioner profile.
- The Department of Health may include in the practitioner's practitioner profile any other information that is a public record of any governmental entity and that relates to a practitioner's ability to competently practice his or her profession. However, the department must consult with the board having regulatory authority over the practitioner before such information is included in his or her profile.
- (7) Upon the completion of a practitioner profile under this section, the Department of Health shall furnish the practitioner who is the subject of the profile a copy of it. The practitioner has a period of 30 days in which to review the profile and to correct any factual inaccuracies in it. The Department of Health shall make the profile available to the 31 public at the end of the 30-day period. The department shall

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29 30 make the profiles available to the public through the World Wide Web and other commonly used means of distribution.

(8) Making a practitioner profile available to the public under this section does not constitute agency action for which a hearing under s. 120.57 may be sought.

Section 4. Section 455.5653, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

455.5653 Practitioner profiles; data storage. -- Effective upon this act becoming a law, the Department of Health must develop or contract for a computer system to accommodate the new data collection and storage requirements under this act pending the development and operation of a computer system by the Department of Health for handling the collection, input, revision, and update of data submitted by physicians as a part of their initial licensure or renewal to be compiled into individual practitioner profiles. The Department of Health must incorporate any data required by this act into the computer system used in conjunction with the regulation of health care professions under its jurisdiction. The department must develop, by the year 2000, a schedule and procedures for each practitioner within a health care profession regulated within the Division of Medical Quality Assurance to submit relevant information to be compiled into a profile to be made available to the public. The Department of Health is authorized to contract with and negotiate any interagency agreement necessary to develop and implement the practitioner profiles. The Department of Health shall have access to any information or record maintained by the Agency for Health Care Administration, including any information or record that is otherwise confidential and 31 exempt from the provisions of chapter 119 and s. 24(a), Art. I

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29 30 of the State Constitution, so that the Department of Health may corroborate any information that practitioners physicians are required to report under s. 455.565.

Section 5. Section 455.5654, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

455.5654 Practitioner profiles; rules; workshops. -- Effective upon this act becoming a law, the Department of Health shall adopt rules for the form of a practitioner profile that the agency is required to prepare. The Department of Health, pursuant to chapter 120, must hold public workshops for purposes of rule development to implement this section. An agency to which information is to be submitted under this act may adopt by rule a form for the submission of the information required under s. 455.565.

Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 455.567, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

455.567 Sexual misconduct; disqualification for license, certificate, or registration. --

(1) Sexual misconduct in the practice of a health care profession means violation of the professional relationship through which the health care practitioner uses such relationship to engage or attempt to engage the patient or client, or an immediate family member, guardian, or representative of the patient or client in, or to induce or attempt to induce such person to engage in, verbal or physical sexual activity outside the scope of the professional practice of such health care profession. Sexual misconduct in the practice of a health care profession is prohibited.

Section 7. Paragraphs (f) and (u) of subsection (1), paragraph (c) of subsection (2), and subsection (3) of section 31 455.624, Florida Statutes, are amended, and paragraphs (y) and

- (z) are added to subsection (1) of said section, to read:
 455.624 Grounds for discipline; penalties;
 enforcement.--
- (1) The following acts shall constitute grounds for which the disciplinary actions specified in subsection (2) may be taken:
- the regulated profession revoked, suspended, or otherwise acted against, including the denial of licensure, by the licensing authority of any jurisdiction, including its agencies or subdivisions, for a violation that would constitute a violation under Florida law. The licensing authority's acceptance of a relinquishment of licensure, stipulation, consent order, or other settlement, offered in response to or in anticipation of the filing of charges against the license, shall be construed as action against the license.
- (u) Engaging or attempting to engage in sexual misconduct as defined and prohibited in s. 455.567(1)a patient or client in verbal or physical sexual activity. For the purposes of this section, a patient or client shall be presumed to be incapable of giving free, full, and informed consent to verbal or physical sexual activity.
- (y) Being unable to practice with reasonable skill and safety to patients by reason of illness or use of alcohol, drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or any other type of material or as a result of any mental or physical condition. In enforcing this paragraph, the department shall have, upon a finding of the secretary or the secretary's designee that probable cause exists to believe that the licensee is unable to practice because of the reasons stated in this paragraph, the authority

to issue an order to compel a licensee to submit to a mental or physical examination by physicians designated by the department. If the licensee refuses to comply with such order, the department's order directing such examination may be enforced by filing a petition for enforcement in the circuit court where the licensee resides or does business. The licensee against whom the petition is filed may not be named or identified by initials in any public court records or documents, and the proceedings shall be closed to the public. The department shall be entitled to the summary procedure provided in s. 51.011. A licensee or certificateholder affected under this paragraph shall at reasonable intervals be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate that he or she can resume the competent practice of his or her profession with reasonable skill and safety to patients.

- (z) Testing positive for any drug, as defined in s.

 112.0455, on any confirmed preemployment or employer-ordered drug screening when the practitioner does not have a lawful prescription and legitimate medical reason for using such drug.
- (2) When the board, or the department when there is no board, finds any person guilty of the grounds set forth in subsection (1) or of any grounds set forth in the applicable practice act, including conduct constituting a substantial violation of subsection (1) or a violation of the applicable practice act which occurred prior to obtaining a license, it may enter an order imposing one or more of the following penalties:
 - (c) Restriction of practice or license.

30 | 31 | In determining what action is appropriate, the board, or

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department when there is no board, must first consider what sanctions are necessary to protect the public or to compensate the patient. Only after those sanctions have been imposed may the disciplining authority consider and include in the order requirements designed to rehabilitate the practitioner. All costs associated with compliance with orders issued under this subsection are the obligation of the practitioner.

- (3) (a) Notwithstanding subsection (2), if the ground for disciplinary action is the first-time failure of the licensee to satisfy continuing education requirements established by the board, or by the department if there is no board, the board or department, as applicable, shall issue a citation in accordance with s. 455.617 and assess a fine, as determined by the board or department by rule. In addition, for each hour of continuing education not completed or completed late, the board or department, as applicable, may require the licensee to take 1 additional hour of continuing education for each hour not completed or completed late.
- (b) Notwithstanding subsection (2), if the ground for disciplinary action is the first-time violation of a practice act for unprofessional conduct, as used in ss. 464.018(1)(h), 467.203(1)(f), 468.365(1)(f), and 478.52(1)(f), and no actual harm to the patient occurred, the board or department, as applicable, shall issue a citation in accordance with s. 455.617 and assess a penalty as determined by rule of the board or department.

Section 8. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment to section 455.624, Florida Statutes, in references thereto, the sections or subdivisions of Florida Statutes set forth below are reenacted to read:

455.577 Penalty for theft or reproduction of an

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examination. -- In addition to, or in lieu of, any other discipline imposed pursuant to s. 455.624, the theft of an examination in whole or in part or the act of reproducing or copying any examination administered by the department, whether such examination is reproduced or copied in part or in whole and by any means, constitutes a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

455.631 Penalty for giving false information.--In addition to, or in lieu of, any other discipline imposed pursuant to s. 455.624, the act of knowingly giving false information in the course of applying for or obtaining a license from the department, or any board thereunder, with intent to mislead a public servant in the performance of his or her official duties, or the act of attempting to obtain or obtaining a license from the department, or any board thereunder, to practice a profession by knowingly misleading statements or knowing misrepresentations constitutes a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

455.651 Disclosure of confidential information.--

- (2) Any person who willfully violates any provision of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, and may be subject to discipline pursuant to s. 455.624, and, if applicable, shall be removed from office, employment, or the contractual relationship.
- 455.712 Business establishments; requirements for active status licenses.--
- (1) A business establishment regulated by the Division 31 of Medical Quality Assurance pursuant to this part may provide

regulated services only if the business establishment has an active status license. A business establishment that provides regulated services without an active status license is in violation of this section and s. 455.624, and the board, or the department if there is no board, may impose discipline on the business establishment.

458.347 Physician assistants.--

- (7) PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LICENSURE. --
- (g) The Board of Medicine may impose any of the penalties specified in ss. 455.624 and 458.331(2) upon a physician assistant if the physician assistant or the supervising physician has been found guilty of or is being investigated for any act that constitutes a violation of this chapter or part II of chapter 455.

459.022 Physician assistants.--

- (7) PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LICENSURE. --
- (f) The Board of Osteopathic Medicine may impose any of the penalties specified in ss. 455.624 and 459.015(2) upon a physician assistant if the physician assistant or the supervising physician has been found guilty of or is being investigated for any act that constitutes a violation of this chapter or part II of chapter 455.

468.1755 Disciplinary proceedings. --

- (1) The following acts shall constitute grounds for which the disciplinary actions in subsection (2) may be taken:
- (a) Violation of any provision of s. 455.624(1) or s. 468.1745(1).

468.719 Disciplinary actions.--

- (1) The following acts shall be grounds for disciplinary actions provided for in subsection (2):
 - (a) A violation of any law relating to the practice of

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29 30 athletic training, including, but not limited to, any violation of this part, s. 455.624, or any rule adopted pursuant thereto.

(2) When the board finds any person guilty of any of the acts set forth in subsection (1), the board may enter an order imposing one or more of the penalties provided in s. 455.624.

468.811 Disciplinary proceedings.--

- (1) The following acts are grounds for disciplinary action against a licensee and the issuance of cease and desist orders or other related action by the department, pursuant to s. 455.624, against any person who engages in or aids in a violation.
- (a) Attempting to procure a license by fraudulent misrepresentation.
- (b) Having a license to practice orthotics, prosthetics, or pedorthics revoked, suspended, or otherwise acted against, including the denial of licensure in another jurisdiction.
- (c) Being convicted or found guilty of or pleading nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, in any jurisdiction, a crime that directly relates to the practice of orthotics, prosthetics, or pedorthics, including violations of federal laws or regulations regarding orthotics, prosthetics, or pedorthics.
- (d) Filing a report or record that the licensee knows is false, intentionally or negligently failing to file a report or record required by state or federal law, willfully impeding or obstructing such filing, or inducing another person to impede or obstruct such filing. Such reports or 31 records include only reports or records that are signed in a

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29 30 person's capacity as a licensee under this act.

- (e) Advertising goods or services in a fraudulent, false, deceptive, or misleading manner.
- (f) Violation of this act or part II of chapter 455, or any rules adopted thereunder.
- (g) Violation of an order of the board, agency, or department previously entered in a disciplinary hearing or failure to comply with a subpoena issued by the board, agency, or department.
- (h) Practicing with a revoked, suspended, or inactive license.
- (i) Gross or repeated malpractice or the failure to deliver orthotic, prosthetic, or pedorthic services with that level of care and skill which is recognized by a reasonably prudent licensed practitioner with similar professional training as being acceptable under similar conditions and circumstances.
- (j) Failing to provide written notice of any applicable warranty for an orthosis, prosthesis, or pedorthic device that is provided to a patient.
- (2) The board may enter an order imposing one or more of the penalties in s. 455.624(2) against any person who violates any provision of subsection (1).

484.056 Disciplinary proceedings. --

(1) The following acts relating to the practice of dispensing hearing aids shall be grounds for both disciplinary action against a hearing aid specialist as set forth in this section and cease and desist or other related action by the department as set forth in s. 455.637 against any person owning or operating a hearing aid establishment who engages 31 in, aids, or abets any such violation:

1 (a) Violation of any provision of s. 455.624(1), s. 2 484.0512, or s. 484.053. 3 Section 9. Section 455.704, Florida Statutes, is 4 repealed. 5 Section 10. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section 6 455.707, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 7 455.707 Treatment programs for impaired practitioners.--8 9 (1) For professions that do not have impaired 10 practitioner programs provided for in their practice acts, the department shall, by rule, designate approved impaired 11 12 practitioner treatment programs under this section. The 13 department may adopt rules setting forth appropriate criteria for approval of treatment providers based on the policies and 14 15 guidelines established by the Impaired Practitioners 16 The rules may must specify the manner in which the Committee. 17 consultant, retained as set forth in subsection (2), works with the department in intervention, requirements for 18 evaluating and treating a professional, and requirements for 19 20 the continued care and monitoring of a professional by the 21 consultant by an approved at a department-approved treatment provider. The department shall not compel any impaired 22 23 practitioner program in existence on October 1, 1992, to serve 24 additional professions. (2) The department shall retain one or more impaired 25 26 practitioner consultants as recommended by the committee. 27 consultant shall be a licensee or recovered licensee under the 28 jurisdiction of the Division of Medical Quality Assurance within the department, and at least one consultant must be a 29

practitioner or recovered practitioner licensed under chapter 31 458, chapter 459, or chapter 464. The consultant shall assist

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the probable cause panel and department in carrying out the responsibilities of this section. This shall include working with department investigators to determine whether a practitioner is, in fact, impaired.

- (3)(a) Whenever the department receives a written or oral legally sufficient complaint alleging that a licensee under the jurisdiction of the Division of Medical Quality Assurance within the department is impaired as a result of the misuse or abuse of alcohol or drugs, or both, or due to a mental or physical condition which could affect the licensee's ability to practice with skill and safety, and no complaint against the licensee other than impairment exists, the reporting of such information shall not constitute grounds for discipline pursuant to s. 455.624 or the corresponding grounds for discipline within the applicable practice act a complaint within the meaning of s. 455.621 if the probable cause panel of the appropriate board, or the department when there is no board, finds:
- The licensee has acknowledged the impairment problem.
- The licensee has voluntarily enrolled in an appropriate, approved treatment program.
- The licensee has voluntarily withdrawn from practice or limited the scope of practice as required by the consultant determined by the panel, or the department when there is no board, in each case, until such time as the panel, or the department when there is no board, is satisfied the licensee has successfully completed an approved treatment program.
- The licensee has executed releases for medical 31 | records, authorizing the release of all records of

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evaluations, diagnoses, and treatment of the licensee, including records of treatment for emotional or mental conditions, to the consultant. The consultant shall make no copies or reports of records that do not regard the issue of the licensee's impairment and his or her participation in a treatment program.

- (b) If, however, the department has not received a legally sufficient complaint and the licensee agrees to withdraw from practice until such time as the consultant determines the licensee has satisfactorily completed an approved treatment program or evaluation, the probable cause panel, or the department when there is no board, shall not become involved in the licensee's case.
- (c) Inquiries related to impairment treatment programs designed to provide information to the licensee and others and which do not indicate that the licensee presents a danger to the public shall not constitute a complaint within the meaning of s. 455.621 and shall be exempt from the provisions of this subsection.
- (d) Whenever the department receives a legally sufficient complaint alleging that a licensee is impaired as described in paragraph (a) and no complaint against the licensee other than impairment exists, the department shall forward all information in its possession regarding the impaired licensee to the consultant. For the purposes of this section, a suspension from hospital staff privileges due to the impairment does not constitute a complaint.
- The probable cause panel, or the department when there is no board, shall work directly with the consultant, and all information concerning a practitioner obtained from 31 the consultant by the panel, or the department when there is

no board, shall remain confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1), subject to the provisions of subsections (5) and (6).

(f) A finding of probable cause shall not be made as long as the panel, or the department when there is no board, is satisfied, based upon information it receives from the consultant and the department, that the licensee is progressing satisfactorily in an approved impaired practitioner treatment program and no-other complaint against the licensee exists.

Section 11. Subsection (1) of section 310.102, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

310.102 Treatment programs for impaired pilots and deputy pilots.--

(1) The department shall, by rule, designate approved treatment programs for <u>impaired</u> pilots and deputy pilots under this section. The department may adopt rules setting forth appropriate criteria for approval of treatment providers based on the policies and guidelines established by the Impaired Practitioners Committee under s. 455.704.

Section 12. Section 455.711, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

455.711 <u>Licenses; active and</u> inactive and delinquent status; delinquency.--

- (1) A licensee may practice a profession only if the licensee has an active status license. A licensee who practices a profession without an active status license is in violation of this section and s. 455.624, and the board, or the department if there is no board, may impose discipline on the licensee.
 - (2) Each board, or the department if there is no

board, shall permit a licensee to choose, at the time of licensure renewal, an active or inactive status. However, a licensee who changes from inactive to active status is not eligible to return to inactive status until the licensee thereafter completes a licensure cycle on active status.

- (3) Each board, or the department if there is no board, shall by rule impose a fee for <u>renewal of</u> an <u>active or</u> inactive status license. The renewal fee for an inactive <u>status license may not exceed</u> which is no greater than the fee for an active status license.
- (4) Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a licensee may change licensure status at any time.
- (a) Active status licensees choosing inactive status at the time of license renewal must pay the inactive status renewal fee, and, if applicable, the delinquency fee and the fee to change licensure status. Active status licensees choosing inactive status at any other time than at the time of license renewal must pay the fee to change licensure status.
- (b) An inactive status licensee may change to active status at any time, if the licensee meets all requirements for active status, pays any additional licensure fees necessary to equal those imposed on an active status licensee, pays any applicable reactivation fees as set by the board, or the department if there is no board, and meets all continuing education requirements as specified in this section. Inactive status licensees choosing active status at the time of license renewal must pay the active status renewal fee, any applicable reactivation fees as set by the board, or the department if there is no board, and, if applicable, the delinquency fee and the fee to change licensure status. Inactive status licensees choosing active status at any other time than at the time of

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29 30 license renewal must pay the difference between the inactive status renewal fee and the active status renewal fee, if any exists, any applicable reactivation fees as set by the board, or the department if there is no board, and the fee to change licensure status.

- (5) A licensee must apply with a complete application, as defined by rule of the board, or the department if there is no board, to renew an active status or inactive status license before the license expires. If a licensee fails to renew before the license expires, the license becomes delinquent in the license cycle following expiration.
- (6) A delinquent status licensee must affirmatively apply with a complete application, as defined by rule of the board, or the department if there is no board, for active or inactive status during the licensure cycle in which a licensee becomes delinquent. Failure by a delinquent status licensee to become active or inactive before the expiration of the current licensure cycle renders the license null without any further action by the board or the department. Any subsequent licensure shall be as a result of applying for and meeting all requirements imposed on an applicant for new licensure.
- (7) Each board, or the department if there is no board, shall by rule impose an additional delinquency fee, not to exceed the biennial renewal fee for an active status license, on a delinquent status licensee when such licensee applies for active or inactive status.
- (8) Each board, or the department if there is no board, shall by rule impose an additional fee, not to exceed the biennial renewal fee for an active status license, for processing a licensee's request to change licensure status at 31 \mid any time other than at the beginning of a licensure cycle.

- (9) Each board, or the department if there is no board, may by rule impose reasonable conditions, excluding full reexamination but including part of a national examination or a special purpose examination to assess current competency, necessary to ensure that a licensee who has been on inactive status for more than two consecutive biennial licensure cycles and who applies for active status can practice with the care and skill sufficient to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Reactivation requirements may differ depending on the length of time licensees are inactive. The costs to meet reactivation requirements shall be borne by licensees requesting reactivation.
- (10) Before reactivation, an inactive <u>status licensee</u> or <u>a</u> delinquent licensee <u>who was inactive prior to becoming</u> <u>delinquent</u> must meet the same continuing education requirements, if any, imposed on an active status licensee for all biennial licensure periods in which the licensee was inactive or delinquent.
- (11) The status or a change in status of a licensee does not alter in any way the right of the board, or of the department if there is no board, to impose discipline or to enforce discipline previously imposed on a licensee for acts or omissions committed by the licensee while holding a license, whether active, inactive, or delinquent.
- (12) This section does not apply to a business establishment registered, permitted, or licensed by the department to do business.
- (13) The board, or the department when there is no board, may adopt rules pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54 as necessary to implement this section.

Section 13. Subsection (3) of section 455.587, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

455.587 Fees; receipts; disposition.--

(3) Each board, or the department if there is no board, may, by rule, assess and collect a one-time fee from each active status licensee and each voluntary inactive status licensee in an amount necessary to eliminate a cash deficit or, if there is not a cash deficit, in an amount sufficient to maintain the financial integrity of the professions as required in this section. Not more than one such assessment may be made in any 4-year period without specific legislative authorization.

Section 14. Subsection (1) of section 455.714, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

455.714 Renewal and cancellation notices.--

- (1) At least 90 days before the end of a licensure cycle, the department shall:
- (a) Forward a licensure renewal notification to an active or inactive $\underline{\text{status}}$ licensee at the licensee's last known address of record with the department.
- (b) Forward a notice of pending cancellation of licensure to a delinquent status licensee at the licensee's last known address of record with the department.

Section 15. Section 455.719, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

455.719 Health care professionals; exemption from disqualification from employment or contracting.—Any other provision of law to the contrary notwithstanding, only the appropriate regulatory board, or the department when there is no board, may grant an exemption from disqualification from employment or contracting as provided in s. 435.07 to a person

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29 30 under the licensing jurisdiction of that board or the department, as applicable.

Section 16. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 943.0585, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

943.0585 Court-ordered expunction of criminal history records. -- The courts of this state have jurisdiction over their own procedures, including the maintenance, expunction, and correction of judicial records containing criminal history information to the extent such procedures are not inconsistent with the conditions, responsibilities, and duties established by this section. Any court of competent jurisdiction may order a criminal justice agency to expunge the criminal history record of a minor or an adult who complies with the requirements of this section. The court shall not order a criminal justice agency to expunde a criminal history record until the person seeking to expunge a criminal history record has applied for and received a certificate of eligibility for expunction pursuant to subsection (2). A criminal history record that relates to a violation of chapter 794, s. 800.04, s. 817.034, s. 827.071, chapter 839, s. 893.135, or a violation enumerated in s. 907.041 may not be expunged, without regard to whether adjudication was withheld, if the defendant was found guilty of or pled guilty or nolo contendere to the offense, or if the defendant, as a minor, was found to have committed, or pled guilty or nolo contendere to committing, the offense as a delinquent act. The court may only order expunction of a criminal history record pertaining to one arrest or one incident of alleged criminal activity, except as provided in this section. The court may, at its sole discretion, order the expunction of a criminal history record 31 pertaining to more than one arrest if the additional arrests

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29 30 directly relate to the original arrest. If the court intends to order the expunction of records pertaining to such additional arrests, such intent must be specified in the order. A criminal justice agency may not expunge any record pertaining to such additional arrests if the order to expunge does not articulate the intention of the court to expunge a record pertaining to more than one arrest. This section does not prevent the court from ordering the expunction of only a portion of a criminal history record pertaining to one arrest or one incident of alleged criminal activity. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a criminal justice agency may comply with laws, court orders, and official requests of other jurisdictions relating to expunction, correction, or confidential handling of criminal history records or information derived therefrom. This section does not confer any right to the expunction of any criminal history record, and any request for expunction of a criminal history record may be denied at the sole discretion of the court.

(4) EFFECT OF CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD EXPUNCTION. -- Any criminal history record of a minor or an adult which is ordered expunged by a court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to this section must be physically destroyed or obliterated by any criminal justice agency having custody of such record; except that any criminal history record in the custody of the department must be retained in all cases. A criminal history record ordered expunged that is retained by the department is confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution and not available to any person or entity except upon order of a court of competent jurisdiction. A criminal justice agency may 31 | retain a notation indicating compliance with an order to

expunge.

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- The person who is the subject of a criminal history record that is expunged under this section or under other provisions of law, including former s. 893.14, former s. 901.33, and former s. 943.058, may lawfully deny or fail to acknowledge the arrests covered by the expunged record, except when the subject of the record:
- 1. Is a candidate for employment with a criminal justice agency;
 - 2. Is a defendant in a criminal prosecution;
- 3. Concurrently or subsequently petitions for relief under this section or s. 943.059;
 - Is a candidate for admission to The Florida Bar;
- Is seeking to be employed or licensed by or to contract with the Department of Children and Family Services or the Department of Juvenile Justice or to be employed or used by such contractor or licensee in a sensitive position having direct contact with children, the developmentally disabled, the aged, or the elderly as provided in s. 110.1127(3), s. 393.063(15), s. 394.4572(1), s. 397.451, s. 402.302(3), s. 402.313(3), s. 409.175(2)(i), s. 415.102(4), s. 415.1075(4), s. 985.407, or chapter 400; or
- 6. Is seeking to be employed or licensed by the Office of Teacher Education, Certification, Staff Development, and Professional Practices of the Department of Education, any district school board, or any local governmental entity that licenses child care facilities; or-
- 7. Is seeking to be employed or licensed by or to contract with the Department of Health or to be employed or used by such contractor or licensee in a sensitive position 31 | having direct contact with children, the developmentally

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disabled, the aged, or the elderly as provided in s. 110.1127(3), s. 393.063(15), s. 394.4572(1), s. 397.451, s. 402.302(3), s. 402.313(3), s. 409.175(2)(i), s. 415.102(4), s. 415.1075(4), s. 985.407, or chapter 400. Section 17. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 943.059, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 943.059 Court-ordered sealing of criminal history records. -- The courts of this state shall continue to have jurisdiction over their own procedures, including the maintenance, sealing, and correction of judicial records containing criminal history information to the extent such 11 12 procedures are not inconsistent with the conditions, 13 responsibilities, and duties established by this section. court of competent jurisdiction may order a criminal justice 14 15 agency to seal the criminal history record of a minor or an 16 adult who complies with the requirements of this section. The court shall not order a criminal justice agency to seal a criminal history record until the person seeking to seal a 18 criminal history record has applied for and received a 19 certificate of eligibility for sealing pursuant to subsection 20 (2). A criminal history record that relates to a violation of chapter 794, s. 800.04, s. 817.034, s. 827.071, chapter 839, 22 s. 893.135, or a violation enumerated in s. 907.041 may not be 23 24 sealed, without regard to whether adjudication was withheld, 25 if the defendant was found guilty of or pled guilty or nolo contendere to the offense, or if the defendant, as a minor, 26 27 was found to have committed or pled guilty or nolo contendere to committing the offense as a delinquent act. The court may 28

31 except as provided in this section. The court may, at its sole

only order sealing of a criminal history record pertaining to

one arrest or one incident of alleged criminal activity,

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discretion, order the sealing of a criminal history record pertaining to more than one arrest if the additional arrests directly relate to the original arrest. If the court intends to order the sealing of records pertaining to such additional arrests, such intent must be specified in the order. A criminal justice agency may not seal any record pertaining to such additional arrests if the order to seal does not articulate the intention of the court to seal records pertaining to more than one arrest. This section does not prevent the court from ordering the sealing of only a portion of a criminal history record pertaining to one arrest or one incident of alleged criminal activity. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, a criminal justice agency may comply with laws, court orders, and official requests of other jurisdictions relating to sealing, correction, or confidential handling of criminal history records or information derived therefrom. This section does not confer any right to the sealing of any criminal history record, and any request for sealing a criminal history record may be denied at the sole discretion of the court.

- (4) EFFECT OF CRIMINAL HISTORY RECORD SEALING.--A criminal history record of a minor or an adult which is ordered sealed by a court of competent jurisdiction pursuant to this section is confidential and exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution and is available only to the person who is the subject of the record, to the subject's attorney, to criminal justice agencies for their respective criminal justice purposes, or to those entities set forth in subparagraphs (a)1., 4., 5., and 6. for their respective licensing and employment purposes.
 - (a) The subject of a criminal history record sealed

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29 30 under this section or under other provisions of law, including former s. 893.14, former s. 901.33, and former s. 943.058, may lawfully deny or fail to acknowledge the arrests covered by the sealed record, except when the subject of the record:

- Is a candidate for employment with a criminal justice agency;
 - 2. Is a defendant in a criminal prosecution;
- 3. Concurrently or subsequently petitions for relief under this section or s. 943.0585;
 - Is a candidate for admission to The Florida Bar;
- Is seeking to be employed or licensed by or to contract with the Department of Children and Family Services or the Department of Juvenile Justice or to be employed or used by such contractor or licensee in a sensitive position having direct contact with children, the developmentally disabled, the aged, or the elderly as provided in s. 110.1127(3), s. 393.063(15), s. 394.4572(1), s. 397.451, s. 402.302(3), s. 402.313(3), s. 409.175(2)(i), s. 415.102(4), s. 415.103, s. 985.407, or chapter 400; or
- 6. Is seeking to be employed or licensed by or to contract with the Department of Health or to be employed or used by such contractor or licensee in a sensitive position having direct contact with children, the developmentally disabled, the aged, or the elderly as provided in s. 110.1127(3), s. 393.063(15), s. 394.4572(1), s. 397.451, s. 402.302(3), s. 402.313(3), s. 409.175(2)(i), s. 415.102(4), s. 415.1075(4), s. 985.407, or chapter 400; or
- 7.6. Is seeking to be employed or licensed by the Office of Teacher Education, Certification, Staff Development, and Professional Practices of the Department of Education, any 31 district school board, or any local governmental entity which

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29 30 licenses child care facilities.

Section 18. Section 455.637, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

455.637 Unlicensed practice of a health care profession; intent; cease and desist notice; penalties civil penalty; enforcement; citations; fees; allocation and disposition of moneys collected .--

- (1) It is the intent of the Legislature that vigorous enforcement of licensure regulation for all health care professions is a state priority in order to protect Florida residents and visitors from the potentially serious and dangerous consequences of receiving medical and health care services from unlicensed persons whose professional education and training and other relevant qualifications have not been approved through the issuance of a license by the appropriate regulatory board or the department when there is no board. The unlicensed practice of a health care profession or the performance or delivery of medical or health care services to patients in this state without a valid, active license to practice that profession, regardless of the means of the performance or delivery of such services, is strictly prohibited.
- (2) The penalties for unlicensed practice of a health care profession shall include the following:
- (a) (1) When the department has probable cause to believe that any person not licensed by the department, or the appropriate regulatory board within the department, has violated any provision of this part or any statute that relates to the practice of a profession regulated by the department, or any rule adopted pursuant thereto, the 31 department may issue and deliver to such person a notice to

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cease and desist from such violation. In addition, the department may issue and deliver a notice to cease and desist to any person who aids and abets the unlicensed practice of a profession by employing such unlicensed person. The issuance of a notice to cease and desist shall not constitute agency action for which a hearing under ss. 120.569 and 120.57 may be sought. For the purpose of enforcing a cease and desist order, the department may file a proceeding in the name of the state seeking issuance of an injunction or a writ of mandamus against any person who violates any provisions of such order.

(b) In addition to the foregoing remedies under paragraph (a), the department may impose by citation an administrative penalty not to exceed \$5,000 per incident pursuant to the provisions of chapter 120 or may issue a citation pursuant to the provisions of subsection (3). The citation shall be issued to the subject and shall contain the subject's name and any other information the department determines to be necessary to identify the subject, a brief factual statement, the sections of the law allegedly violated, and the penalty imposed. If the subject does not dispute the matter in the citation with the department within 30 days after the citation is served, the citation shall become a final order of the department. The department may adopt rules to implement this section. The penalty shall be a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$5,000 as established by rule of the department. Each day that the unlicensed practice continues after issuance of a notice to cease and desist constitutes a separate violation. The department shall be entitled to recover the costs of investigation and prosecution in addition to the fine levied pursuant to the citation. Service of a citation may be made by personal service or by

mail to the subject at the subject's last known address or place of practice. If the department is required to seek enforcement of the cease and desist or agency order for a penalty pursuant to s. 120.569, it shall be entitled to collect its attorney's fees and costs, together with any cost of collection.

(c)(2) In addition to or in lieu of any other administrative remedy provided in subsection (1), the department may seek the imposition of a civil penalty through the circuit court for any violation for which the department may issue a notice to cease and desist under subsection (1). The civil penalty shall be no less than \$500 and no more than \$5,000 for each offense. The court may also award to the prevailing party court costs and reasonable attorney fees and, in the event the department prevails, may also award reasonable costs of investigation and prosecution.

- (d) In addition to the administrative and civil remedies under paragraphs (b) and (c) and in addition to the criminal violations and penalties listed in the individual health care practice acts:
- 1. It is a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, to practice, attempt to practice, or offer to practice a health care profession without an active, valid Florida license to practice that profession. Practicing without an active, valid license also includes practicing on a suspended, revoked, or void license, but does not include practicing, attempting to practice, or offering to practice with an inactive or delinquent license for a period of up to 12 months which is addressed in subparagraph 3. Applying for employment for a position that requires a license without notifying the

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employer that the person does not currently possess a valid, active license to practice that profession shall be deemed to 2 be an attempt or offer to practice that health care profession 3 4 without a license. Holding oneself out, regardless of the means of communication, as able to practice a health care profession or as able to provide services that require a health care license shall be deemed to be an attempt or offer to practice such profession without a license. The minimum 8 penalty for violating this subparagraph shall be a fine of 10 \$1,000 and a minimum mandatory period of incarceration of 1 11 year.

- 2. It is a felony of the second degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, to practice a health care profession without an active, valid Florida license to practice that profession when such practice results in serious bodily injury. For purposes of this section, 'serious bodily injury" means death; brain or spinal damage; disfigurement; fracture or dislocation of bones or joints; limitation of neurological, physical, or sensory function; or any condition that required subsequent surgical repair. The minimum penalty for violating this subparagraph shall be a fine of \$1,000 and a minimum mandatory period of incarceration of 1 year.
- 3. It is a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, to practice, attempt to practice, or offer to practice a health care profession with an inactive or delinquent license for any period of time up to 12 months. However, practicing, attempting to practice, or offering to practice a health care profession when that person's license has been inactive or delinquent for a period of time of 12 months or more shall be a felony of the third

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degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or
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    s. 775.084. The minimum penalty for violating this
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    subparagraph shall be a term of imprisonment of 30 days and a
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    fine of $500.
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          (3) Because all enforcement costs should be covered by
   professions regulated by the department, the department shall
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    impose, upon initial licensure and each licensure renewal, a
    special fee of $5 per licensee to fund efforts to combat
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   unlicensed activity. Such fee shall be in addition to all
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    other fees collected from each licensee. The board with
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    concurrence of the department, or the department when there is
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   no board, may earmark $5 of the current licensure fee for this
    purpose, if such board, or profession regulated by the
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    department, is not in a deficit and has a reasonable cash
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   balance. The department shall make direct charges to the
   Medical Quality Assurance Trust Fund by profession. The
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    department shall seek board advice regarding enforcement
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    methods and strategies. The department shall directly credit
    the Medical Quality Assurance Trust Fund, by profession, with
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    the revenues received from the department's efforts to enforce
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    licensure provisions. The department shall include all
    financial and statistical data resulting from unlicensed
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    activity enforcement as a separate category in the quarterly
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    management report provided for in s. 455.587. For an
    unlicensed activity account, a balance which remains at the
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    end of a renewal cycle may, with concurrence of the applicable
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    board and the department, be transferred to the operating fund
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    account of that profession. The department shall also use
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    these funds to inform and educate consumers generally on the
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    importance of using licensed health care practitioners.
          (3)(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 455.621,
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the department shall adopt rules to permit the issuance of citations for unlicensed practice of a profession. The citation shall be issued to the subject and shall contain the subject's name and any other information the department determines to be necessary to identify the subject, a brief factual statement, the sections of the law allegedly violated, and the penalty imposed. The citation must clearly state that the subject may choose, in lieu of accepting the citation, to follow the procedure under s. 455.621. If the subject disputes the matter in the citation, the procedures set forth in s. 455.621 must be followed. However, if the subject does not dispute the matter in the citation with the department within 30 days after the citation is served, the citation shall become a final order of the department. The penalty shall be a fine of not less than \$500 or more than \$5,000 or other conditions as established by rule.

- (b) Each day that the unlicensed practice continues after issuance of a citation constitutes a separate violation.
- (c) The department shall be entitled to recover the costs of investigation, in addition to any penalty provided according to department rule as part of the penalty levied pursuant to the citation.
- (d) Service of a citation may be made by personal service or certified mail, restricted delivery, to the subject at the subject's last known address.
- (4) All fines, fees, and costs collected through the procedures set forth in this section shall be allocated to the professions in the manner provided for in s. 455.641 for the allocation of the fees assessed and collected to combat unlicensed practice of a profession.
 - (4)(5) The provisions of this section apply only to

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29 30 health care the professional practice acts administered by the department.

(5) Nothing herein shall be construed to limit or restrict the sale, use, or recommendation of the use of a dietary supplement, as defined by the Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act, Title 21, s. 321, so long as the person selling, using, or recommending the dietary supplement does so in compliance with federal and state law and does not hold himself or herself out to be a health care practitioner as defined in s. 455.501(4).

Section 19. The amendment of s. 455.637, Florida Statutes, by this act applies to offenses committed on or after the effective date of such section.

Section 20. Section 455.641, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 21. For the purpose of incorporating the amendment to section 455.637, Florida Statutes, in references thereto, the sections or subdivisions of Florida Statutes set forth below are reenacted to read:

455.574 Department of Health; examinations.--

(1)

(d) Each board, or the department when there is no board, shall adopt rules regarding the security and monitoring of examinations. The department shall implement those rules adopted by the respective boards. In order to maintain the security of examinations, the department may employ the procedures set forth in s. 455.637 to seek fines and injunctive relief against an examinee who violates the provisions of s. 455.577 or the rules adopted pursuant to this paragraph. The department, or any agent thereof, may, for the 31 | purposes of investigation, confiscate any written,

photographic, or recording material or device in the possession of the examinee at the examination site which the department deems necessary to enforce such provisions or rules.

468.1295 Disciplinary proceedings. --

- (1) The following acts constitute grounds for both disciplinary actions as set forth in subsection (2) and cease and desist or other related actions by the department as set forth in s. 455.637:
- (a) Procuring or attempting to procure a license by bribery, by fraudulent misrepresentation, or through an error of the department or the board.
- (b) Having a license revoked, suspended, or otherwise acted against, including denial of licensure, by the licensing authority of another state, territory, or country.
- (c) Being convicted or found guilty of, or entering a plea of nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a crime in any jurisdiction which directly relates to the practice of speech-language pathology or audiology.
- (d) Making or filing a report or record which the licensee knows to be false, intentionally or negligently failing to file a report or records required by state or federal law, willfully impeding or obstructing such filing, or inducing another person to impede or obstruct such filing. Such report or record shall include only those reports or records which are signed in one's capacity as a licensed speech-language pathologist or audiologist.
- (e) Advertising goods or services in a manner which is fraudulent, false, deceptive, or misleading in form or content.
 - (f) Being proven guilty of fraud or deceit or of

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29 30 negligence, incompetency, or misconduct in the practice of speech-language pathology or audiology.

- (g) Violating a lawful order of the board or department previously entered in a disciplinary hearing, or failing to comply with a lawfully issued subpoena of the board or department.
- (h) Practicing with a revoked, suspended, inactive, or delinguent license.
- (i) Using, or causing or promoting the use of, any advertising matter, promotional literature, testimonial, guarantee, warranty, label, brand, insignia, or other representation, however disseminated or published, which is misleading, deceiving, or untruthful.
- (j) Showing or demonstrating or, in the event of sale, delivery of a product unusable or impractical for the purpose represented or implied by such action.
- (k) Failing to submit to the board on an annual basis, or such other basis as may be provided by rule, certification of testing and calibration of such equipment as designated by the board and on the form approved by the board.
- (1) Aiding, assisting, procuring, employing, or advising any licensee or business entity to practice speech-language pathology or audiology contrary to this part, part II of chapter 455, or any rule adopted pursuant thereto.
- (m) Violating any provision of this part or part II of chapter 455 or any rule adopted pursuant thereto.
- (n) Misrepresenting the professional services available in the fitting, sale, adjustment, service, or repair of a hearing aid, or using any other term or title which might connote the availability of professional services when such 31 use is not accurate.

- (o) Representing, advertising, or implying that a hearing aid or its repair is guaranteed without providing full disclosure of the identity of the guarantor; the nature, extent, and duration of the guarantee; and the existence of conditions or limitations imposed upon the guarantee.
- (p) Representing, directly or by implication, that a hearing aid utilizing bone conduction has certain specified features, such as the absence of anything in the ear or leading to the ear, or the like, without disclosing clearly and conspicuously that the instrument operates on the bone conduction principle and that in many cases of hearing loss this type of instrument may not be suitable.
- (q) Stating or implying that the use of any hearing aid will improve or preserve hearing or prevent or retard the progression of a hearing impairment or that it will have any similar or opposite effect.
- (r) Making any statement regarding the cure of the cause of a hearing impairment by the use of a hearing aid.
- (s) Representing or implying that a hearing aid is or will be "custom-made," "made to order," or "prescription-made," or in any other sense specially fabricated for an individual, when such is not the case.
- (t) Canvassing from house to house or by telephone, either in person or by an agent, for the purpose of selling a hearing aid, except that contacting persons who have evidenced an interest in hearing aids, or have been referred as in need of hearing aids, shall not be considered canvassing.
- (u) Failing to notify the department in writing of a change in current mailing and place-of-practice address within 30 days after such change.
 - (v) Failing to provide all information as described in

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- (w) Exercising influence on a client in such a manner as to exploit the client for financial gain of the licensee or of a third party.
- (x) Practicing or offering to practice beyond the scope permitted by law or accepting and performing professional responsibilities the licensee or certificateholder knows, or has reason to know, the licensee or certificateholder is not competent to perform.
- (y) Aiding, assisting, procuring, or employing any unlicensed person to practice speech-language pathology or audiology.
- (z) Delegating or contracting for the performance of professional responsibilities by a person when the licensee delegating or contracting for performance of such responsibilities knows, or has reason to know, such person is not qualified by training, experience, and authorization to perform them.
- (aa) Committing any act upon a patient or client which would constitute sexual battery or which would constitute sexual misconduct as defined pursuant to s. 468.1296.
- (bb) Being unable to practice the profession for which he or she is licensed or certified under this chapter with reasonable skill or competence as a result of any mental or physical condition or by reason of illness, drunkenness, or use of drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or any other substance. In enforcing this paragraph, upon a finding by the secretary, his or her designee, or the board that probable cause exists to believe that the licensee or certificateholder is unable to practice the profession because of the reasons stated in this 31 paragraph, the department shall have the authority to compel a

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licensee or certificateholder to submit to a mental or physical examination by a physician, psychologist, clinical social worker, marriage and family therapist, or mental health counselor designated by the department or board. licensee or certificateholder refuses to comply with the department's order directing the examination, such order may be enforced by filing a petition for enforcement in the circuit court in the circuit in which the licensee or certificateholder resides or does business. The department shall be entitled to the summary procedure provided in s. 51.011. A licensee or certificateholder affected under this paragraph shall at reasonable intervals be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate that he or she can resume the competent practice for which he or she is licensed or certified with reasonable skill and safety to patients.

484.014 Disciplinary actions.--

- (1) The following acts relating to the practice of opticianry shall be grounds for both disciplinary action against an optician as set forth in this section and cease and desist or other related action by the department as set forth in s. 455.637 against any person operating an optical establishment who engages in, aids, or abets any such violation:
- Procuring or attempting to procure a license by misrepresentation, bribery, or fraud or through an error of the department or the board.
- (b) Procuring or attempting to procure a license for any other person by making or causing to be made any false representation.
- (c) Making or filing a report or record which the 31 | licensee knows to be false, intentionally or negligently

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failing to file a report or record required by federal or state law, willfully impeding or obstructing such filing, or inducing another person to do so. Such reports or records shall include only those which the person is required to make or file as an optician.

- (d) Failing to make fee or price information readily available by providing such information upon request or upon the presentation of a prescription.
- (e) Advertising goods or services in a manner which is fraudulent, false, deceptive, or misleading in form or content.
- (f) Fraud or deceit, or negligence, incompetency, or misconduct, in the authorized practice of opticianry.
- (g) Violation or repeated violation of this part or of part II of chapter 455 or any rules promulgated pursuant thereto.
- (h) Practicing with a revoked, suspended, inactive, or delinquent license.
- (i) Violation of a lawful order of the board or department previously entered in a disciplinary hearing or failing to comply with a lawfully issued subpoena of the department.
 - (j) Violation of any provision of s. 484.012.
- (k) Conspiring with another licensee or with any person to commit an act, or committing an act, which would coerce, intimidate, or preclude another licensee from lawfully advertising her or his services.
- (1) Willfully submitting to any third-party payor a claim for services which were not provided to a patient.
 - (m) Failing to keep written prescription files.
 - (n) Willfully failing to report any person who the

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29 30 licensee knows is in violation of this part or of rules of the department or the board.

- (o) Exercising influence on a client in such a manner as to exploit the client for financial gain of the licensee or of a third party.
 - (p) Gross or repeated malpractice.
- (q) Permitting any person not licensed as an optician in this state to fit or dispense any lenses, spectacles, eyeglasses, or other optical devices which are part of the practice of opticianry.
- (r) Being convicted or found guilty of, or entering a plea of nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, in a court of this state or other jurisdiction, a crime which relates to the ability to practice opticianry or to the practice of opticianry.
- (s) Having been disciplined by a regulatory agency in another state for any offense that would constitute a violation of Florida law or rules regulating opticianry.
- (t) Being unable to practice opticianry with reasonable skill and safety by reason of illness or use of drugs, narcotics, chemicals, or any other type of material or as a result of any mental or physical condition. An optician affected under this paragraph shall at reasonable intervals be afforded an opportunity to demonstrate that she or he can resume the competent practice of opticianry with reasonable skill and safety to her or his customers.

484.056 Disciplinary proceedings.--

(1) The following acts relating to the practice of dispensing hearing aids shall be grounds for both disciplinary action against a hearing aid specialist as set forth in this 31 section and cease and desist or other related action by the

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department as set forth in s. 455.637 against any person owning or operating a hearing aid establishment who engages in, aids, or abets any such violation:

- (a) Violation of any provision of s. 455.624(1), s. 484.0512, or s. 484.053.
- (b) Attempting to procure a license to dispense hearing aids by bribery, by fraudulent misrepresentations, or through an error of the department or the board.
- (c) Having a license to dispense hearing aids revoked, suspended, or otherwise acted against, including the denial of licensure, by the licensing authority of another state, territory, or country.
- (d) Being convicted or found guilty of, or entering a plea of nolo contendere to, regardless of adjudication, a crime in any jurisdiction which directly relates to the practice of dispensing hearing aids or the ability to practice dispensing hearing aids, including violations of any federal laws or regulations regarding hearing aids.
- (e) Making or filing a report or record which the licensee knows to be false, intentionally or negligently failing to file a report or record required by state or federal law, willfully impeding or obstructing such filing, or inducing another person to impede or obstruct such filing. Such reports or records shall include only those reports or records which are signed in one's capacity as a licensed hearing aid specialist.
- (f) Advertising goods or services in a manner which is fraudulent, false, deceptive, or misleading in form or content.
- (g) Proof that the licensee is guilty of fraud or 31 deceit or of negligence, incompetency, or misconduct in the

 practice of dispensing hearing aids.

- (h) Violation or repeated violation of this part or of part II of chapter 455, or any rules promulgated pursuant thereto.
- (i) Violation of a lawful order of the board or department previously entered in a disciplinary hearing or failure to comply with a lawfully issued subpoena of the board or department.
- (j) Practicing with a revoked, suspended, inactive, or delinquent license.
- (k) Using, or causing or promoting the use of, any advertising matter, promotional literature, testimonial, guarantee, warranty, label, brand, insignia, or other representation, however disseminated or published, which is misleading, deceiving, or untruthful.
- (1) Showing or demonstrating, or, in the event of sale, delivery of, a product unusable or impractical for the purpose represented or implied by such action.
- (m) Misrepresentation of professional services
 available in the fitting, sale, adjustment, service, or repair
 of a hearing aid, or use of the terms "doctor," "clinic,"
 "clinical," "medical audiologist," "clinical audiologist,"
 "research audiologist," or "audiologic" or any other term or
 title which might connote the availability of professional
 services when such use is not accurate.
- (n) Representation, advertisement, or implication that a hearing aid or its repair is guaranteed without providing full disclosure of the identity of the guarantor; the nature, extent, and duration of the guarantee; and the existence of conditions or limitations imposed upon the guarantee.
 - (o) Representing, directly or by implication, that a

hearing aid utilizing bone conduction has certain specified features, such as the absence of anything in the ear or leading to the ear, or the like, without disclosing clearly and conspicuously that the instrument operates on the bone conduction principle and that in many cases of hearing loss this type of instrument may not be suitable.

- (p) Making any predictions or prognostications as to the future course of a hearing impairment, either in general terms or with reference to an individual person.
- (q) Stating or implying that the use of any hearing aid will improve or preserve hearing or prevent or retard the progression of a hearing impairment or that it will have any similar or opposite effect.
- (r) Making any statement regarding the cure of the cause of a hearing impairment by the use of a hearing aid.
- (s) Representing or implying that a hearing aid is or will be "custom-made," "made to order," or "prescription-made" or in any other sense specially fabricated for an individual person when such is not the case.
- (t) Canvassing from house to house or by telephone either in person or by an agent for the purpose of selling a hearing aid, except that contacting persons who have evidenced an interest in hearing aids, or have been referred as in need of hearing aids, shall not be considered canvassing.
- (u) Failure to submit to the board on an annual basis, or such other basis as may be provided by rule, certification of testing and calibration of audiometric testing equipment on the form approved by the board.
- (v) Failing to provide all information as described in s. 484.051(1).
 - (w) Exercising influence on a client in such a manner

1	as to exploit the	client fo	or financial gain of the licensee or
2	of a third party.		
3	Section 22	. Paragra	aphs (a) and (g) of subsection (3)
4	of section 921.00	22, Florio	da Statutes, are amended to read:
5	921.0022	Criminal I	Punishment Code; offense severity
6	ranking chart		
7	(3) OFFEN	SE SEVERIT	TY RANKING CHART
8			
9	Florida	Felony	
10	Statute	Degree	Description
11			
12			(a) LEVEL 1
13	24.118(3)(a)	3rd	Counterfeit or altered state
14			lottery ticket.
15	212.054(2)(b)	3rd	Discretionary sales surtax;
16			limitations, administration, and
17			collection.
18	212.15(2)(b)	3rd	Failure to remit sales taxes,
19			amount greater than \$300 but less
20			than \$20,000.
21	319.30(5)	3rd	Sell, exchange, give away
22			certificate of title or
23			identification number plate.
24	319.35(1)(a)	3rd	Tamper, adjust, change, etc., an
25			odometer.
26	320.26(1)(a)	3rd	Counterfeit, manufacture, or sell
27			registration license plates or
28			validation stickers.
29	322.212(1)	3rd	Possession of forged, stolen,
30			counterfeit, or unlawfully issued
31			driver's license; possession of

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1			simulated identification.
2	322.212(4)	3rd	Supply or aid in supplying
3			unauthorized driver's license or
4			identification card.
5	322.212(5)(a)	3rd	False application for driver's
6			license or identification card.
7	370.13(3)(a)	3rd	Molest any stone crab trap, line,
8			or buoy which is property of
9			licenseholder.
10	370.135(1)	3rd	Molest any blue crab trap, line,
11			or buoy which is property of
12			licenseholder.
13	372.663(1)	3rd	Poach any alligator or
14			crocodilia.
15	414.39(2)	3rd	Unauthorized use, possession,
16			forgery, or alteration of food
17			stamps, Medicaid ID, value
18			greater than \$200.
19	414.39(3)(a)	3rd	Fraudulent misappropriation of
20			public assistance funds by
21			employee/official, value more
22			than \$200.
23	443.071(1)	3rd	False statement or representation
24			to obtain or increase
25			unemployment compensation
26			benefits.
27	458.327(1)(a)	3rd	Unlicensed practice of medicine.
28	466.026(1)(a)	3rd	Unlicensed practice of dentistry
29			or dental hygiene.
30	509.151(1)	3rd	Defraud an innkeeper, food or
31			lodging value greater than \$300.

1	517.302(1)	3rd	Violation of the Florida
2			Securities and Investor
3			Protection Act.
4	562.27(1)	3rd	Possess still or still apparatus.
5	713.69	3rd	Tenant removes property upon
6			which lien has accrued, value
7			more than \$50.
8	812.014(3)(c)	3rd	Petit theft (3rd conviction);
9			theft of any property not
10			specified in subsection (2).
11	812.081(2)	3rd	Unlawfully makes or causes to be
12			made a reproduction of a trade
13			secret.
14	815.04(4)(a)	3rd	Offense against intellectual
15			property (i.e., computer
16			programs, data).
17	817.52(2)	3rd	Hiring with intent to defraud,
18			motor vehicle services.
19	826.01	3rd	Bigamy.
20	828.122(3)	3rd	Fighting or baiting animals.
21	831.04(1)	3rd	Any erasure, alteration, etc., of
22			any replacement deed, map, plat,
23			or other document listed in s.
24			92.28.
25	831.31(1)(a)	3rd	Sell, deliver, or possess
26			counterfeit controlled
27			substances, all but s. 893.03(5)
28			drugs.
29	832.041(1)	3rd	Stopping payment with intent to
30			defraud \$150 or more.
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1	832.05		
2	(2)(b)&(4)(c)	3rd	Knowing, making, issuing
3			worthless checks \$150 or more or
4			obtaining property in return for
5			worthless check \$150 or more.
6	838.015(3)	3rd	Bribery.
7	838.016(1)	3rd	Public servant receiving unlawful
8			compensation.
9	838.15(2)	3rd	Commercial bribe receiving.
10	838.16	3rd	Commercial bribery.
11	843.18	3rd	Fleeing by boat to elude a law
12			enforcement officer.
13	847.011(1)(a)	3rd	Sell, distribute, etc., obscene,
14			lewd, etc., material (2nd
15			conviction).
16	849.01	3rd	Keeping gambling house.
17	849.09(1)(a)-(d)	3rd	Lottery; set up, promote, etc.,
18			or assist therein, conduct or
19			advertise drawing for prizes, or
20			dispose of property or money by
21			means of lottery.
22	849.23	3rd	Gambling-related machines;
23			"common offender" as to property
24			rights.
25	849.25(2)	3rd	Engaging in bookmaking.
26	860.08	3rd	Interfere with a railroad signal.
27	860.13(1)(a)	3rd	Operate aircraft while under the
28			influence.
29	893.13(2)(a)2.	3rd	Purchase of cannabis.
30	893.13(6)(a)	3rd	Possession of cannabis (more than
31			20 grams).

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1	893.13(7)(a)10.	3rd	Affix false or forged label to
2			package of controlled substance.
3	934.03(1)(a)	3rd	Intercepts, or procures any other
4			person to intercept, any wire or
5			oral communication.
6			(g) LEVEL 7
7	316.193(3)(c)2.	3rd	DUI resulting in serious bodily
8			injury.
9	327.35(3)(c)2.	3rd	Vessel BUI resulting in serious
10			bodily injury.
11	402.319(2)	2nd	Misrepresentation and negligence
12			or intentional act resulting in
13			great bodily harm, permanent
14			disfiguration, permanent
15			disability, or death.
16	409.920(2)	3rd	Medicaid provider fraud.
17	455.637(2)	<u>3rd</u>	Practicing a health care
18			profession without a license.
19	455.637(2)	2nd	Practicing a health care
20			profession without a license
21			which results in serious bodily
22			injury.
23	458.327(1)	<u>3rd</u>	Practicing medicine without a
24			<u>license.</u>
25	459.013(1)	<u>3rd</u>	Practicing osteopathic medicine
26			without a license.
27	460.411(1)	<u>3rd</u>	Practicing chiropractic medicine
28			without a license.
29	461.012(1)	<u>3rd</u>	Practicing podiatric medicine
30			without a license.
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1	462.17	3rd	Practicing naturopathy without a
2	402.17	<u> 51 </u>	license.
3	463.015(1)	3rd	Practicing optometry without a
4	1001010(17	<u>5 </u>	license.
5	464.016(1)	3rd	Practicing nursing without a
6		<u></u>	license.
7	465.015(2)	3rd	Practicing pharmacy without a
8			license.
9	466.026(1)	3rd	Practicing dentistry or dental
10			hygiene without a license.
11	467.201	3rd	Practicing midwifery without a
12			license.
13	468.366	3rd	Delivering respiratory care
14			services without a license.
15	483.828(1)	<u>3rd</u>	Practicing as clinical laboratory
16			personnel without a license.
17	483.901(9)	<u>3rd</u>	Practicing medical physics
18			without a license.
19	484.053	<u>3rd</u>	Dispensing hearing aids without a
20			license.
21	494.0018(2)	1st	Conviction of any violation of
22			ss. 494.001-494.0077 in which the
23			total money and property
24			unlawfully obtained exceeded
25			\$50,000 and there were five or
26			more victims.
27	782.051(3)	2nd	Attempted felony murder of a
28			person by a person other than the
29			perpetrator or the perpetrator of
30			an attempted felony.
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1 782.07(1) 2nd Killing of a human being act, procurement, or contact act.	
act, producement, or co	ulnahla
3 negligence of another	aipabic
4 (manslaughter).	
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
fetus by the operation	
7 vehicle in a reckless r	manner
8 (vehicular homicide).	
9 782.072 2nd Killing of a human being	
operation of a vessel :	in a
11 reckless manner (vesse	1
homicide).	
13 784.045(1)(a)1. 2nd Aggravated battery; int	tentionally
14 causing great bodily ha	arm or
disfigurement.	
16 784.045(1)(a)2. 2nd Aggravated battery; us:	ing deadly
weapon.	
18 784.045(1)(b) 2nd Aggravated battery; per	rpetrator
aware victim pregnant.	
20 784.048(4) 3rd Aggravated stalking; v:	iolation of
21 injunction or court ord	der.
22 784.07(2)(d) 1st Aggravated battery on 1	law
enforcement officer.	
24 784.08(2)(a) 1st Aggravated battery on a	a person 65
years of age or older.	
26 784.081(1) 1st Aggravated battery on s	specified
official or employee.	
28 784.082(1) 1st Aggravated battery by o	detained
29 person on visitor or of	ther
30 detainee.	
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1	784.083(1)	1st	Aggravated battery on code
2			inspector.
3	790.07(4)	1st	Specified weapons violation
4			subsequent to previous conviction
5			of s. 790.07(1) or (2).
6	790.16(1)	1st	Discharge of a machine gun under
7			specified circumstances.
8	796.03	2nd	Procuring any person under 16
9			years for prostitution.
10	800.04(5)(c)1.	2nd	Lewd or lascivious molestation;
11			victim less than 12 years of age;
12			offender less than 18 years.
13	800.04(5)(c)2.	2nd	Lewd or lascivious molestation;
14			victim 12 years of age or older
15			but less than 16 years; offender
16			18 years or older.
17	806.01(2)	2nd	Maliciously damage structure by
18			fire or explosive.
19	810.02(3)(a)	2nd	Burglary of occupied dwelling;
20			unarmed; no assault or battery.
21	810.02(3)(b)	2nd	Burglary of unoccupied dwelling;
22			unarmed; no assault or battery.
23	810.02(3)(d)	2nd	Burglary of occupied conveyance;
24			unarmed; no assault or battery.
25	812.014(2)(a)	1st	Property stolen, valued at
26			\$100,000 or more; property stolen
27			while causing other property
28			damage; 1st degree grand theft.
29	812.019(2)	1st	Stolen property; initiates,
30			organizes, plans, etc., the theft
31			of property and traffics in

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1			stolen property.
2	812.131(2)(a)	2nd	Robbery by sudden snatching.
3	812.133(2)(b)	1st	Carjacking; no firearm, deadly
4			weapon, or other weapon.
5	825.102(3)(b)	2nd	Neglecting an elderly person or
6			disabled adult causing great
7			bodily harm, disability, or
8			disfigurement.
9	825.1025(2)	2nd	Lewd or lascivious battery upon
10			an elderly person or disabled
11			adult.
12	825.103(2)(b)	2nd	Exploiting an elderly person or
13			disabled adult and property is
14			valued at \$20,000 or more, but
15			less than \$100,000.
16	827.03(3)(b)	2nd	Neglect of a child causing great
17			bodily harm, disability, or
18			disfigurement.
19	827.04(3)	3rd	Impregnation of a child under 16
20			years of age by person 21 years
21			of age or older.
22	837.05(2)	3rd	Giving false information about
23			alleged capital felony to a law
24			enforcement officer.
25	872.06	2nd	Abuse of a dead human body.
26	893.13(1)(c)1.	1st	Sell, manufacture, or deliver
27			cocaine (or other drug prohibited
28			under s. 893.03(1)(a), (1)(b),
29			(1)(d), (2)(a), or (2)(b)) within
30			1,000 feet of a child care
31			facility or school.

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1	893.13(1)(e)	1st	Sell, manufacture, or deliver
2			cocaine or other drug prohibited
3			under s. 893.03(1)(a), (1)(b),
4			(1)(d), (2)(a), or (2)(b), within
5			1,000 feet of property used for
6			religious services or a specified
7			business site.
8	893.13(4)(a)	1st	Deliver to minor cocaine (or
9			other s. 893.03(1)(a), (1)(b),
10			(1)(d), (2)(a), or (2)(b) drugs).
11	893.135(1)(a)1.	1st	Trafficking in cannabis, more
12			than 50 lbs., less than 2,000
13			lbs.
14	893.135		
15	(1)(b)1.a.	1st	Trafficking in cocaine, more than
16			28 grams, less than 200 grams.
17	893.135		
18	(1)(c)1.a.	1st	Trafficking in illegal drugs,
19			more than 4 grams, less than 14
20			grams.
21	893.135		
22	(1)(d)1.	1st	Trafficking in phencyclidine,
23			more than 28 grams, less than 200
24			grams.
25	893.135(1)(e)1.	1st	Trafficking in methaqualone, more
26			than 200 grams, less than 5
27			kilograms.
28	893.135(1)(f)1.	1st	Trafficking in amphetamine, more
29			than 14 grams, less than 28
30			grams.
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1	893.135
2	(1)(g)1.a. 1st Trafficking in flunitrazepam, 4
3	grams or more, less than 14
4	grams.
5	Section 23. Subsection (1) of section 458.327, Florida
6	Statutes, reads:
7	458.327 Penalty for violations
8	(1) Each of the following acts constitutes a felony of
9	the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.
LO	775.083, or s. 775.084:
L1	(a) The practice of medicine or an attempt to practice
L2	medicine without a license to practice in Florida.
L3	(b) The use or attempted use of a license which is
L4	suspended or revoked to practice medicine.
L5	(c) Attempting to obtain or obtaining a license to
L6	practice medicine by knowing misrepresentation.
L7	(d) Attempting to obtain or obtaining a position as a
L8	medical practitioner or medical resident in a clinic or
L9	hospital through knowing misrepresentation of education,
20	training, or experience.
21	Section 24. Subsection (1) of section 459.013, Florida
22	Statutes, reads:
23	459.013 Penalty for violations
24	(1) Each of the following acts constitutes a felony of
25	the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.
26	775.083, or s. 775.084:
27	(a) The practice of osteopathic medicine, or an
28	attempt to practice osteopathic medicine, without an active
29	license or certificate issued pursuant to this chapter.
30	(b) The practice of osteopathic medicine by a person

31 holding a limited license, osteopathic faculty certificate, or

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other certificate issued under this chapter beyond the scope of practice authorized for such licensee or certificateholder.

- (c) Attempting to obtain or obtaining a license to practice osteopathic medicine by knowing misrepresentation.
- (d) Attempting to obtain or obtaining a position as an osteopathic medical practitioner or osteopathic medical resident in a clinic or hospital through knowing misrepresentation of education, training, or experience.

Section 25. Subsection (1) of section 460.411, Florida Statutes, reads:

460.411 Violations and penalties.--

- (1) Each of the following acts constitutes a violation of this chapter and is a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084:
- (a) Practicing or attempting to practice chiropractic medicine without an active license or with a license fraudulently obtained.
- (b) Using or attempting to use a license to practice chiropractic medicine which has been suspended or revoked.

Section 26. Subsection (1) of section 461.012, Florida Statutes, reads:

461.012 Violations and penalties. --

- (1) Each of the following acts constitutes a violation of this chapter and is a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084:
- (a) Practicing or attempting to practice podiatric medicine without an active license or with a license fraudulently obtained.
 - (b) Advertising podiatric services without an active

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license obtained pursuant to this chapter or with a license fraudulently obtained.

(c) Using or attempting to use a license to practice podiatric medicine which has been suspended or revoked.

Section 27. Section 462.17, Florida Statutes, reads:

462.17 Penalty for offenses relating to naturopathy.--Any person who shall:

- (1) Sell, fraudulently obtain, or furnish any naturopathic diploma, license, record, or registration or aid or abet in the same;
- (2) Practice naturopathy under the cover of any diploma, license, record, or registration illegally or fraudulently obtained or secured or issued unlawfully or upon fraudulent representations;
- (3) Advertise to practice naturopathy under a name other than her or his own or under an assumed name;
- (4) Falsely impersonate another practitioner of a like or different name;
- (5) Practice or advertise to practice naturopathy or use in connection with her or his name any designation tending to imply or to designate the person as a practitioner of naturopathy without then being lawfully licensed and authorized to practice naturopathy in this state; or
- (6) Practice naturopathy during the time her or his license is suspended or revoked

shall be guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 28. Subsection (1) of section 463.015, Florida Statutes, reads:

463.015 Violations and penalties.--

1	(1) Each of the following acts constitutes a felony of
2	the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.
3	775.083, or s. 775.084:
4	(a) Practicing or attempting to practice optometry
5	without a valid active license issued pursuant to this
6	chapter.
7	(b) Attempting to obtain or obtaining a license to
8	practice optometry by fraudulent misrepresentation.
9	(c) Using or attempting to use a license to practice
10	optometry which has been suspended or revoked.
11	Section 29. Subsection (1) of section 464.016, Florida
12	Statutes, reads:
13	464.016 Violations and penalties
14	(1) Each of the following acts constitutes a felony of
15	the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.
16	775.083, or s. 775.084:
17	(a) Practicing advanced or specialized, professional
18	or practical nursing, as defined in this chapter, unless
19	holding an active license or certificate to do so.
20	(b) Using or attempting to use a license or
21	certificate which has been suspended or revoked.
22	(c) Knowingly employing unlicensed persons in the
23	practice of nursing.
24	(d) Obtaining or attempting to obtain a license or
25	certificate under this chapter by misleading statements or
26	knowing misrepresentation.
27	Section 30. Subsection (2) of section 465.015, Florida
28	Statutes, reads:
29	465.015 Violations and penalties

(a) To make a false or fraudulent statement, either

(2) It is unlawful for any person:

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for herself or himself or for another person, in any application, affidavit, or statement presented to the board or in any proceeding before the board.

- (b) To fill, compound, or dispense prescriptions or to dispense medicinal drugs if such person does not hold an active license as a pharmacist in this state, is not registered as an intern in this state, or is an intern not acting under the direct and immediate personal supervision of a licensed pharmacist.
- (c) To sell or dispense drugs as defined in s. 465.003(8) without first being furnished with a prescription.
- (d) To sell samples or complimentary packages of drug products.

Section 31. Subsection (1) of section 466.026, Florida Statutes, reads:

466.026 Prohibitions; penalties.--

- (1) Each of the following acts constitutes a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084:
- (a) Practicing dentistry or dental hygiene unless the person has an appropriate, active license issued by the department pursuant to this chapter.
- (b) Using or attempting to use a license issued pursuant to this chapter which license has been suspended or revoked.
- (c) Knowingly employing any person to perform duties outside the scope allowed such person under this chapter or the rules of the board.
- (d) Giving false or forged evidence to the department or board for the purpose of obtaining a license.
 - (e) Selling or offering to sell a diploma conferring a

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degree from a dental college or dental hygiene school or college, or a license issued pursuant to this chapter, or procuring such diploma or license with intent that it shall be used as evidence of that which the document stands for, by a person other than the one upon whom it was conferred or to whom it was granted.

Section 32. Section 467.201, Florida Statutes, reads: 467.201 Violations and penalties. -- Each of the following acts constitutes a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084:

- (1) Practicing midwifery, unless holding an active license to do so.
- (2) Using or attempting to use a license which has been suspended or revoked.
- (3) The willful practice of midwifery by a student midwife without a preceptor present, except in an emergency.
- Knowingly allowing a student midwife to practice midwifery without a preceptor present, except in an emergency.
- (5) Obtaining or attempting to obtain a license under this chapter through bribery or fraudulent misrepresentation.
- (6) Using the name or title "midwife" or "licensed midwife" or any other name or title which implies that a person is licensed to practice midwifery, unless such person is duly licensed as provided in this chapter.
- (7) Knowingly concealing information relating to the enforcement of this chapter or rules adopted pursuant thereto. Section 33. Section 468.366, Florida Statutes, reads:

468.366 Penalties for violations.--29

(1) It is a violation of law for any person, including 31 any firm, association, or corporation, to:

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- Sell or fraudulently obtain, attempt to obtain, or furnish to any person a diploma, license, or record, or aid or abet in the sale, procurement, or attempted procurement thereof.
- Deliver respiratory care services, as defined by this part or by rule of the board, under cover of any diploma, license, or record that was illegally or fraudulently obtained or signed or issued unlawfully or under fraudulent representation.
- (c) Deliver respiratory care services, as defined by this part or by rule of the board, unless such person is duly licensed to do so under the provisions of this part or unless such person is exempted pursuant to s. 468.368.
- (d) Use, in connection with his or her name, any designation tending to imply that he or she is a respiratory care practitioner or a respiratory therapist, duly licensed under the provisions of this part, unless he or she is so licensed.
- (e) Advertise an educational program as meeting the requirements of this part, or conduct an educational program for the preparation of respiratory care practitioners or respiratory therapists, unless such program has been approved by the board.
- (f) Knowingly employ unlicensed persons in the delivery of respiratory care services, unless exempted by this part.
- (g) Knowingly conceal information relative to any violation of this part.
- (2) Any violation of this section is a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 31 775.083, or s. 775.084.

1 Section 34. Subsection (1) of section 483.828, Florida 2 Statutes, reads: 3 483.828 Penalties for violations.--4 (1) Each of the following acts constitutes a felony of 5 the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 6 775.083, or s. 775.084: 7 (a) Practicing as clinical laboratory personnel without an active license. 8 (b) Using or attempting to use a license to practice 9 10 as clinical laboratory personnel which is suspended or 11 revoked. 12 (c) Attempting to obtain or obtaining a license to 13 practice as clinical laboratory personnel by knowing 14 misrepresentation. 15 Section 35. Subsection (9) of section 483.901, Florida Statutes, reads: 16 17 483.901 Medical physicists; definitions; licensure. --(9) PENALTY FOR VIOLATIONS.--It is a felony of the 18 third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 19 20 775.083, or s. 775.084, to: 21 (a) Practice or attempt to practice medical physics or hold oneself out to be a licensed medical physicist without 22 holding an active license. 23 24 (b) Practice or attempt to practice medical physics under a name other than one's own. 25 26 (c) Use or attempt to use a revoked or suspended 27 license or the license of another. 28 Section 36. Section 484.053, Florida Statutes, reads: 29 484.053 Prohibitions; penalties.--30 (1) A person may not:

(a) Practice dispensing hearing aids unless the person

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29 30 is a licensed hearing aid specialist;

- (b) Use the name or title "hearing aid specialist" when the person has not been licensed under this part;
 - (c) Present as her or his own the license of another;
- (d) Give false, incomplete, or forged evidence to the board or a member thereof for the purposes of obtaining a license;
- (e) Use or attempt to use a hearing aid specialist license that is delinquent or has been suspended, revoked, or placed on inactive status;
- (f) Knowingly employ unlicensed persons in the practice of dispensing hearing aids; or
- (g) Knowingly conceal information relative to violations of this part.
- (2) Any person who violates any of the provisions of this section is guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
- (3) If a person licensed under this part allows the sale of a hearing aid by an unlicensed person not registered as a trainee or fails to comply with the requirements of s. 484.0445(2) relating to supervision of trainees, the board shall, upon determination of that violation, order the full refund of moneys paid by the purchaser upon return of the hearing aid to the seller's place of business.

Section 37. Subsection (1) of section 457.102, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

457.102 Definitions. -- As used in this chapter:

"Acupuncture" means a form of primary health care, based on traditional Chinese medical concepts and modern oriental medical techniques, that employs acupuncture 31 diagnosis and treatment, as well as adjunctive therapies and

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29 30 diagnostic techniques, for the promotion, maintenance, and restoration of health and the prevention of disease. Acupuncture shall include, but not be limited to, the insertion of acupuncture needles and the application of moxibustion to specific areas of the human body and the use of electroacupuncture, Qi Gong, oriental massage, herbal therapy, dietary guidelines, and other adjunctive therapies, as defined by board rule.

Section 38. Section 457.105, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

457.105 Licensure qualifications and fees.--

- (1) It is unlawful for any person to practice acupuncture in this state unless such person has been licensed by the board, is in a board-approved course of study, or is otherwise exempted by this chapter.
- (2) A person may become licensed to practice acupuncture if the person applies to the department and:
- (a) Is 21 18 years of age or older, has good moral character, and has the ability to communicate in English, which is demonstrated by having passed the national written examination in English or, if such examination was passed in a foreign language, by also having passed a nationally recognized English proficiency examination;
- (b) Has completed 60 college credits from an accredited postsecondary institution as a prerequisite to enrollment in an authorized 3-year course of study in acupuncture and oriental medicine, and has completed a 3-year course of study in acupuncture and oriental medicine, and effective July 31, 2001, a 4-year course of study in acupuncture and oriental medicine, which meets standards 31 established by the board by rule, which standards include, but

are not limited to, successful completion of academic courses in western anatomy, western physiology, western pathology, western biomedical terminology, first aid, and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR). However, any person who enrolled in an authorized course of study in acupuncture before August 1, 1997, must have completed only a 2-year course of study which meets standards established by the board by rule, which standards must include, but are not limited to, successful completion of academic courses in western anatomy, western physiology, and western pathology;

- (c) Has successfully completed a board-approved national certification process, is actively licensed in a state that has examination requirements that are substantially equivalent to or more stringent than those of this state, or passes an examination administered by the department, which examination tests the applicant's competency and knowledge of the practice of acupuncture and oriental medicine. At the request of any applicant, oriental nomenclature for the points shall be used in the examination. The examination shall include a practical examination of the knowledge and skills required to practice modern and traditional acupuncture and oriental medicine, covering diagnostic and treatment techniques and procedures; and
- $\mbox{(d)}$ Pays the required fees set by the board by rule not to exceed the following amounts:
- 1. Examination fee: \$500 plus the actual per applicant cost to the department for purchase of the written and practical portions of the examination from a national organization approved by the board.
 - 2. Application fee: \$300.
 - 3. Reexamination fee: \$500 plus the actual per

applicant cost to the department for purchase of the written and practical portions of the examination from a national organization approved by the board.

4. Initial biennial licensure fee: \$400, if licensed in the first half of the biennium, and \$200, if licensed in the second half of the biennium.

457.107 Renewal of licenses; continuing education. --

(1) The department shall renew a license upon receipt of the renewal application and the fee set by the board by rule, not to exceed $500 \div 700$.

Section 40. Section 483.824, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 483.824 Qualifications of clinical laboratory director.—A clinical laboratory director must have 4 years of clinical laboratory experience with 2 years of experience in the specialty to be directed or be nationally board certified in the specialty to be directed, and must meet one of the following requirements:
- (1) Be a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459;
- (2) Hold an earned doctoral degree in a chemical, physical, or biological science from a regionally accredited institution and maintain national certification requirements equal to those required by the federal Health Care Financing Administration be nationally certified; or
- (3) For the subspecialty of oral pathology, be a physician licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459 or a dentist licensed under chapter 466.

Section 41. February 6th of each year is designated

1	Florida Alzheimer's Disease Day.
2	Section 42. Pursuant to section 187 of chapter 99-397,
3	Laws of Florida, the Agency for Health Care Administration was
4	directed to conduct a detailed study and analysis of clinical
5	laboratory services for kidney dialysis patients in the State
6	of Florida and to report back to the Legislature no later than
7	February 1, 2000. The agency reported that additional time and
8	investigative resources were necessary to adequately respond
9	to the legislative directives. Therefore, the sum of \$230,000
10	from the Agency for Health Care Administration Tobacco
11	Settlement Trust Fund is appropriated to the Agency for Health
12	Care Administration to contract with the University of South
13	Florida to conduct a review of laboratory test utilization,
14	any self-referral to clinical laboratories, financial
15	arrangements among kidney dialysis centers, their medical
16	directors, referring physicians, and any business
17	relationships and affiliations with clinical laboratories, and
18	the quality and effectiveness of kidney dialysis treatment in
19	this state. A report on the findings from such review shall be
20	presented to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the
21	House of Representatives, and the chairs of the appropriate
22	substantive committees of the Legislature no later than
23	February 1, 2001.
24	Section 43. This act shall take effect July 1, 2000.
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27	========= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ==========
28	And the title is amended as follows:
29	Delete everything before the enacting clause
30	
31	and insert:

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A bill to be entitled An act relating to regulation of the health care professions; amending s. 455.564, F.S.; revising general licensing provisions for professions under the jurisdiction of the Department of Health; providing for processing of applications from foreign or nonresident applicants not yet having a social security number; providing for temporary licensure of such applicants; revising provisions relating to ongoing criminal investigations or prosecutions; requiring proof of restoration of civil rights under certain circumstances; authorizing requirement for personal appearance prior to grant or denial of a license; providing for tolling of application decision deadlines under certain circumstances; amending s. 455.565, F.S.; eliminating duplicative submission of fingerprints and other information required for criminal history checks; providing for certain access to criminal history information through the department's health care practitioner credentialing system; amending s. 455.5651, F.S.; authorizing the department to publish certain information in practitioner profiles; amending s. 455.5653, F.S.; deleting obsolete language relating to scheduling and development of practitioner profiles for additional health care practitioners; providing the department access to information on health care

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practitioners maintained by the Agency for Health Care Administration for corroboration purposes; amending s. 455.5654, F.S.; providing for adoption by rule of a form for submission of profiling information; amending s. 455.567, F.S.; expanding the prohibition against sexual misconduct to cover violations against guardians and representatives of patients or clients; providing penalties; amending s. 455.624, F.S.; revising and providing grounds for disciplinary action relating to having a license to practice a regulated health care profession acted against, sexual misconduct, inability to practice properly due to alcohol or substance abuse or a mental or physical condition, and testing positive for a drug without a lawful prescription therefor; providing for restriction of license as a disciplinary action; providing for issuance of a citation and assessment of a fine for certain first-time violations; reenacting ss. 455.577, 455.631, 455.651(2), 455.712(1), 458.347(7)(g), 459.022(7)(f), 468.1755(1)(a), 468.719(1)(a) and (2), 468.811, and 484.056(1)(a), F.S., relating to theft or reproduction of an examination, giving false information, disclosure of confidential information, business establishments providing regulated services without an active status license, and practice violations by physician assistants, nursing home administrators, athletic trainers,

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orthotists, prosthetists, pedorthists, and hearing aid specialists, to incorporate the amendment to s. 455.624, F.S., in references thereto; repealing s. 455.704, F.S., relating to the Impaired Practitioners Committee; amending s. 455.707, F.S., relating to impaired practitioners, to conform; clarifying provisions relating to complaints against impaired practitioners; amending s. 310.102, F.S.; revising and removing references, to conform; amending s. 455.711, F.S.; revising provisions relating to active and inactive status licensure; eliminating reference to delinguency as a licensure status; providing rulemaking authority; amending ss. 455.587 and 455.714, F.S.; revising references, to conform; creating s. 455.719, F.S.; providing that the appropriate medical regulatory board, or the department when there is no board, has exclusive authority to grant exemptions from disqualification from employment or contracting with respect to persons under the licensing jurisdiction of that board or the department, as applicable; amending s. 943.0585, F.S.; providing expunged criminal history records to the department under certain circumstances; amending s. 943.059, F.S.; providing sealed criminal history records to the department under certain circumstances; amending s. 455.637, F.S.; revising provisions relating to sanctions against the unlicensed practice of a

health care profession; providing legislative 1 intent; revising and expanding provisions 2 3 relating to civil and administrative remedies; 4 providing criminal penalties; incorporating and 5 modifying the substance of current provisions that impose a fee to combat unlicensed activity 6 7 and provide for disposition of the proceeds thereof; providing statutory construction 8 relating to dietary supplements; providing 9 10 applicability; repealing s. 455.641, F.S., relating to unlicensed activity fees, to 11 12 conform; reenacting ss. 455.574(1)(d), 468.1295(1), 484.014(1), and 484.056(1), F.S., 13 relating to violation of security provisions 14 for examinations and violations involving 15 16 speech-language pathology, audiology, 17 opticianry, and the dispensing of hearing aids, 18 to incorporate the amendment to s. 455.637, F.S., in references thereto; amending s. 19 921.0022, F.S.; modifying the criminal offense 20 21 severity ranking chart to add or increase the level of various offenses relating to the 22 practice of a health care profession, the 23 24 practice of medicine, osteopathic medicine, 25 chiropractic medicine, podiatric medicine, 26 naturopathy, optometry, nursing, pharmacy, 27 dentistry, dental hygiene, midwifery, respiratory therapy, and medical physics, 28 practicing as clinical laboratory personnel, 29 30 and the dispensing of hearing aids; amending s. 457.102, F.S.; revising the definition of 31

"acupuncture"; amending s. 457.105, F.S.; revising licensure qualifications to practice acupuncture; amending s. 457.107, F.S.; modifying the fee for renewal of a license to practice acupuncture; amending s. 483.824, F.S.; revising qualifications of clinical laboratory directors; designating Florida Alzheimer's Disease Day; providing an appropriation for continued review of clinical laborabory services for kidney dialysis patients and requiring a report thereon; providing an effective date.