CHAPTER 2005-249

Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 1012

An act relating to professions regulated by the Department of Business and Professional Regulation; amending s. 455.271, F.S.; providing for the reinstatement of certain voided licenses; providing requirements for application and reinstatement of voided licenses, including fees, continuing education, and eligibility; providing an exemption; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (6) of section 455.271, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

455.271 Inactive and delinquent status.—

(6)(a) A delinquent status licensee must affirmatively apply with a complete application, as defined by rule of the board, or the department \underline{if} when 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 shall render the license <u>void</u> 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.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of the professional practice acts administered by the department, the board, or the department if there is no board, may, at its discretion, reinstate the license of an individual whose license has become void if the board or department, as applicable, determine that the individual has made a good-faith effort to comply with this section but has failed to comply because of illness or unusual hardship. The individual must apply to the board, or the department if there is no board, for reinstatement in a manner prescribed by rules of the board or the department, as applicable, and shall pay an applicable fee in an amount determined by rule. The board, or the department if there is no board, shall require that such individual meet all continuing education requirements prescribed by law, pay appropriate licensing fees, and otherwise be eligible for renewal of licensure under this chapter.

This subsection does not apply to individuals subject to regulation under chapter 473.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2005.

Approved by the Governor June 17, 2005.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 17, 2005.

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.