

**OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING POLICY AND PRACTICE
LEARNING CONSORTIUM REMARKS**

**THE SUNSET SUBCOMMITTEE OF THE
LEGISLATIVE COMMISSION
DECEMBER 8, 2017**

ASSEMBLYMAN NELSON ARAUJO

THIS SUMMER, NEVADA APPLIED FOR AND WAS SELECTED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING POLICY LEARNING CONSORTIUM.

NEVADA, ALONG WITH 10 OTHER STATES, HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO IMPROVE ITS UNDERSTANDING OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING ISSUES AND BEST PRACTICES, AND IDENTIFY CURRENT POLICIES THAT CREATE UNNECESSARY BARRIERS TO LABOR MARKET ENTRY.

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS, THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES, AND THE NATIONAL GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION CENTER FOR BEST PRACTICES, WITH SUPPORT FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR ARE PROVIDING TECHNICAL SUPPORT TO THE SELECTED STATES. THIS GROUP IS REFERRED TO AS "THE PARTNERS." THE CONSORTIUM BEGAN MEETING THIS MONTH AND IT WILL FINISH IN DECEMBER 2019.

THE PARTNERS ASKED EACH STATE TO IDENTIFY FOUR TARGET OCCUPATIONS TO BE THE FOCUS OF THIS PROJECT, BASED ON A LIST PROVIDED BY THE PARTNERS. THE LIST INCLUDED 34 OCCUPATIONS BASED ON TWO PRIMARY CRITERIA:

1. OCCUPATIONS ARE LICENSED IN AT LEAST 30 STATES; AND
2. OCCUPATIONS REQUIRE LESS THAN A BACHELOR'S DEGREE.

WE IDENTIFIED FOUR "IN-DEMAND" OCCUPATIONS IN THE CONSTRUCTION AND HEALTH CARE INDUSTRIES FOR FURTHER STUDY.

CONSTRUCTION

- HEATING, AIR CONDITION, AND REFRIGERATION MECHANICS AND INSTALLERS; AND
- PLUMBERS, PIPEFITTERS, AND STEAMFITTERS

HEALTH CARE

- LICENSED PRACTICAL AND LICENSED VOCATIONAL NURSES; AND
- NURSING ASSISTANTS.

I WOULD LIKE TO STRESS THIS IS A COLLABORATIVE EFFORT BETWEEN MANY STAKEHOLDERS, INCLUDING THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH, THE EXECUTIVE BRANCH, THE REGULATORY BOARDS, AND THE PUBLIC.

LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP AND THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE APPOINTED MEMBERS TO THE CORE TEAM, WHICH IS COMPRISED OF:

- LEGISLATORS (SENATOR DENIS, SENATOR RATTI, ASSEMBLYMAN ARAUJO, ASSEMBLYWOMAN BUSTAMANTE ADAMS); AND
- KEY MEMBERS FROM THE DEPARTMENT OF EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING, AND REHABILITATION; THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF WORKFORCE INNOVATION FOR A NEW NEVADA (OWINN); NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION; THE STATE CONTRACTORS' BOARD; AND THE STATE BOARD OF NURSING.

THE CORE TEAM RECENTLY ATTENDED THE FIRST MULTI-STATE MEETING. AT THE MEETING, WE DEVELOPED A VISION STATEMENT, GOALS, AND AN ACTION PLAN.

OUR VISION IS TO CONSIDER THE ROLE OF OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING IN IMPROVING EMPLOYMENT AND MOBILITY, AND SUPPORTING ECONOMIC GROWTH, JOB CREATION, AND WORKER RETENTION.

NEVADA WILL DILIGENTLY WORK TO IDENTIFY AND IMPLEMENT LICENSING BEST PRACTICES THAT ACHIEVE THE STATE'S GOALS OF A SKILLED WORKFORCE, DELIVERY OF HIGH QUALITY SERVICES, AND REMOVE BARRIERS.

IT IS IMPERATIVE THAT WE EXPAND OPPORTUNITIES FOR INTERACTION BETWEEN STAKEHOLDERS REGARDING BARRIERS TO OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING. AS WE NOTED, WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER THAN ALONE.

AS I MENTIONED, WE WANT TO ENGAGE WITH ONE ANOTHER AND SHARE IDEAS AND SOLUTIONS TO COMPLEX OCCUPATIONAL LICENSING ISSUES. WE ARE ACTIVELY WORKING ON IDENTIFYING ADDITIONAL "HOME TEAM" MEMBERS TO OUR GROUP. THESE MEMBERS WILL WORK CLOSELY WITH THE CORE TEAM MEMBERS IN AN EFFORT TO UNDERSTAND AND TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE PRIORITIES AND CONCERNS OF DIFFERENT STAKEHOLDERS.

WE WILL HOLD OUR FIRST IN-STATE MEETING ON
JANUARY 24, 2018, IN LAS VEGAS WHERE WE WILL FURTHER
REFINE OUR GOALS AND ACTION PLAN.

THANK YOU.

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