

WEST VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE

2024 REGULAR SESSION

Introduced

House Bill 5117

By Delegate Smith

[Introduced January 25, 2024; Referred
to the Committee on Government Organization]

1 A BILL to amend and reenact §30-1-23 of the Code of West Virginia, 1931, as amended, generally
2 relating to the waiver of initial licensing fees for certain individuals.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

**ARTICLE 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO ALL STATE BOARDS OF
EXAMINATION OR REGISTRATION REFERRED TO IN CHAPTER.**

§30-1-23. Waiver of initial licensing fees for certain individuals; definitions.

1 (a) As used in this section:

2 (1) "Initial" means obtaining a license in West Virginia for the occupation sought for the first
3 time;

4 (2) "Low-income individuals" means individuals in the local labor market as defined in §21-
5 1C-2 of this code whose household adjusted gross income is below 130 percent of the federal
6 poverty line. This term also includes any person enrolled in a state or federal public assistance
7 program including, but not limited to, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Program,
8 Medicaid, or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; and

9 (3) "Military families" means any person who serves as an active member of the armed
10 forces of the United States, the National Guard, or a reserve component as described in 38 U.S.C.
11 §101, honorably discharged veterans of those forces, and their spouses. This term also includes
12 surviving spouses of deceased service members who have not remarried.

13 (b) Each board or licensing authority referred to in this chapter shall waive all initial
14 occupational licensing fees for the following classes of individuals:

15 (1) Low-income individuals; and

16 (2) Military families.

17 (c) Individuals seeking a waiver of initial occupational licensing fees must apply to the
18 appropriate board or licensing authority in a format prescribed by the board or licensing authority.

19 The board or licensing authority shall process the application within 30 days of receiving it from the
20 applicant.

21 (d) The board or licensing authority ~~shall~~ may propose rules for legislative approval in
22 accordance with §29A-3-1 *et seq.* of this code to implement the provisions of this section.

NOTE: The purpose of this bill generally relates to the waiver of initial licensing fees for certain individuals.

Strike-throughs indicate language that would be stricken from a heading or the present law and underscoring indicates new language that would be added.