

June 1, 2022

Board Members -

Attached you will find a memo from the Lt. Governor regarding a priority from the Governor's office for the next legislative session. Since it is a priority for the Governor, it, by default, becomes a priority for executive-branch boards and councils. As you all know, the Red Tape Relief Initiative is in full gear leading up to statutory changes the Governor's office will be proposing during the next session. The attached memo expresses, at a high level, what changes the Governor's office is promoting to further reduce red tape, remove redundancies, and increase efficiency for licensees and the licensing process.

Under the provisions of the memo, we have already begun a detailed analysis of the licensing statutes to identify where opportunities to reform licensing exist. Additionally, we have specific direction on where the Lt. Governor would like us to focus. However, none of this will be successful without a concerted effort of engaging boards in helping us understand how best to promote these legislative priorities to a successful outcome. While many licensing methods, processes, and platforms are still viable, many are outdated, restrain trade, and do not promote licensing portability. The goal is to reconfigure the licensing process to the extent that contemporary efficiencies and licensing standards replace the outdated methods without any erosion to our shared, public safety mission.

The concepts specifically fostered within the framework of the Lt. Governor's memo serve as a roadmap to reduce the red tape present in the licensing process. The department is "all in" on the concepts promoted by the Governor's office and as such we look forward to working with boards to focus our combined efforts and attention to that end. Licensing-related bills that may originate outside our organization will be first considered in relation to the concepts fostered by the Governor's licensing initiatives prior to a decision being sought on the level of support, if any.

As next steps, we will be facilitating additional conversations with impacted parties and surveying all licensees on various components of the proposed reforms. Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration of and contribution to these legislative concepts. I believe both the boards and the department have an obligation to create an agile and efficient professional licensing system that ensures the safety of the public while not restraining trade. This reform is a great step toward achieving that goal.

Thanks,

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Greg Gianforte, Governor

BUSINESS STANDARDS DIVISION

Laurie Esau, Commissioner