

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to criminal history in professional
 3 licensing applications; amending s. 455.213, F.S.;
 4 revising the period of time when a conviction, or any
 5 other adjudication, for a crime may not be grounds for
 6 denial of licensure in specified professions;
 7 providing an exception; removing a provision requiring
 8 good moral character for licensure in such
 9 professions; requiring the applicable board to approve
 10 certain education program credits offered to inmates
 11 in certain institutions or facilities to satisfy
 12 training requirements for licensure in specified
 13 professions; providing an effective date.

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

16
 17 Section 1. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section
 18 455.213, Florida Statutes, is amended and paragraph (f) is added
 19 to that subsection, to read:

20 455.213 General licensing provisions.—

21 (3)

22 (b)~~1~~. A conviction, or any other adjudication, for a crime
 23 more than 2 ~~5~~ years before the date the application is received
 24 by the applicable board may not be grounds for denial of a
 25 license specified in paragraph (a), unless the applicant was

26 serving time in a jail or prison at any point during such 2-year
27 period. For purposes of this paragraph, the term "conviction"
28 means a determination of guilt that is the result of a plea or
29 trial, regardless of whether adjudication is withheld. This
30 paragraph does not limit the applicable board from considering
31 an applicant's criminal history that includes a crime listed in
32 s. 775.21(4)(a)1. or s. 776.08 at any time, but only if such
33 criminal history has been found to relate to the practice of the
34 applicable profession.

35 ~~2. The applicable board may consider the criminal history~~
36 ~~of an applicant for licensure under subparagraph (a)3. if such~~
37 ~~criminal history has been found to relate to good moral~~
38 ~~character.~~

39 (f) The applicable board shall approve educational program
40 credits offered to inmates in any correctional institution or
41 correctional facility as vocational training or through an
42 industry certification program for the purposes of satisfying
43 applicable training requirements for licensure in a profession
44 under paragraph (a).

45 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2021.