
BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Appointment -- qualifications -- terms. (1) The governor shall appoint the members of a board designated under 2-15-1730 through 2-15-1782 in accordance with this section and with the consent of the senate.

(2) (a) The governor has the authority to remove members of the board with reasonable cause, including but not limited to documented misconduct, incompetence, or neglect of duty.

(b) A person removed from a board by the governor may request reconsideration of the removal. The request for reconsideration must be submitted to the governor within 14 days of the removal. The governor has 14 days to rescind or reaffirm the removal from the board.

(3) Each board must be composed of professional and public members.

(4) (a) Each professional member of a board, while serving as a board member:
(i) must be a resident of this state and at least 18 years of age; and
(ii) must be currently practicing in the profession or occupation and have an active license in this state for at least 1 year and in good standing for the profession or occupation in which the member is appointed to serve.

(b) For the purposes of subsection (4)(a), “good standing” means an active license unencumbered by a final order of disciplinary action or administrative suspension.

(5) (a) Each public member of the board must be a resident of this state and at least 18 years of age.
(b) A public member may not be:
(i) the spouse, parent, or child of a current or former licensee of the board; or
(ii) a person who currently or within the 3 years prior to appointment had any material financial interest in the provision of professional services or engaged in any activity related to the practice of the profession regulated by the board on which the public member is appointed to serve, except as a consumer.

(6) Each board member shall maintain eligibility to serve on the board by avoiding or disclosing conflicts of interest or relationships that would interfere with the board mission of public protection.

(7) A board member may not have a financial interest in the provision of continuing education to any licensee if that continuing education is required by statute or rule.

(8) Each member of the board shall annually attest to having completed coursework or training of a duration and covering content provided by the department to address relevant regulatory issues, including role of the board, role of the board member, conflict of interest, competition, administrative procedures, enforcement, and immunity.

(9) Except as provided in subsection (10), board members must be appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate for a term of 4 years unless appointed to fill a vacancy that occurs prior to the expiration of a former member’s full term. A member appointed to fill a vacancy under this section shall serve the remaining portion of the unexpired term. Appointments made when the legislature is not in session must be confirmed at the next regular legislative session.

(10) The terms of the board members begin on July 1 and are staggered. Subject to 2-16-213, each member shall serve until the expiration of their term unless the member cannot serve because of removal or
resignation from board membership.

(11) A member may serve two consecutive full terms and may not be reappointed within 4 years of the completion of the member's second consecutive full term except in cases when no qualified applications are received for membership on the board. For the purposes of this section, an appointment to fill an unexpired term does not constitute a full term.

**Section 2. Board organization -- meetings -- compensation -- department allocation.** (1) The board shall annually elect a presiding officer and a vice presiding officer to serve in the absence of the presiding officer. The presiding officer shall preside at all meetings of the board and perform duties customarily associated with the position. The presiding officer may establish board committees to further board business and designate board members as committee members.

(2) A presiding officer elected by the board shall serve a 1-year term commencing at the conclusion of the meeting at which the presiding officer is elected and ending on the election of their successor. A presiding officer may serve no more than four consecutive 1-year terms.

(3) The board shall meet at least annually to conduct business. A majority of the membership of the board constitutes a quorum to conduct business.

(4) Members of the board are entitled to compensation and travel expenses as provided in 37-1-133.

(5) A board designated under 2-15-1730 through 2-15-1782 is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only, as prescribed in 2-15-121.

**Section 3.** Section 2-8-401, MCA, is amended to read:

“2-8-401. Purpose. It is the intent of the legislature to:

(1) exercise the police power of the state through the establishment of licensing boards and licensing programs only when regulation of a profession or occupation benefits the public health, safety, welfare, or common good of the state's residents and that benefit outweighs the potential increased cost to the public and limitation on competition;

(2) recognize those professions or occupations that require specialized skill or training; and
(3) provide the public with a means to determine whether practitioners have met competency standards and to complain if the competency is suspect."

Section 4. Section 2-8-402, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-8-402. Intent to create new board. (1) A bill draft request to create a department of labor and industry licensing board or licensing program must include a letter of intent not exceeding 1,000 words report that addresses the criteria in subsections (2) and (3):

(2) The letter of intent must contain the following descriptions:

(a) how licensing would protect and benefit the public; and, in particular,
(b) how the unregulated practice of the profession or occupation would pose a hazard to public health, safety, or welfare or the common good and whether the nature of the profession or occupation makes it difficult for the consumer to evaluate the hazard;

(b) (c) the extent of practitioners' autonomy, as indicated by the degree of independent judgment that a practitioner may exercise or the extent of skill or experience required in making the independent judgment proposed minimum education, experience, and examination requirements necessary to provide the service, comparative data, and analysis on the licensure of the profession or occupation in other states and whether the proposed requirements are greater, less than, or equal to a national average;

(e) (d) the distinguishable proposed scope of practice;

(d) (e) the overlap or shared a description of any overlapping scopes of practices practice with an existing, licensed profession or occupation professions or occupations, whether licensed or not;

(e) the degree, if any, to which licensing would restrict entry into the profession or occupation for reasons other than public health, safety, or welfare or the common good;

(f) the specialized skills or training required for the profession or occupation;

(g) the proposed qualifications for licensure;

(f) an analysis of the impact licensure would have on the type, cost, and availability of services to consumers, the number of providers currently in the market, and other impacts on market conditions;

(h) (g) whether a description of any licensure exception exceptions would be provided to existing practitioners and whether those eligible for the exception
(h) existing practitioners and the date by which they would be required to meet proposed qualifications at a certain time;

(i) a list of other states that license the profession or occupation;

(j) regulatory alternatives other than licensing that are available to the practitioners of the profession or occupation; and

(k) previous efforts, if any, to regulate the profession or occupation; and

(l) whether the profession or occupation could be regulated by an existing licensing board or licensing program.

(3)(2) In order to help in the determination of licensing To estimate initial costs, the letter of intent report must contain a good faith effort to provide answers to the following questions address:

(a) how many the number of licensees are anticipated, including the number of practitioners in Montana and a basis for the estimate;

(b) what is if a licensing board is proposed, the proposed makeup of the licensing board membership; and

(c) what are the projected annual licensing fees based on information from the department of labor and industry for all costs associated with a licensing board or licensing program of the projected size.

(4) After receiving a copy of the responses to subsections (2), (3)(a), and (3)(b), the department of labor and industry shall assist those developing the letter of intent under 2-8-403 or this section with the responses to subsection (3)(c) of this section.

(5) For the purposes of this section, a letter of intent is a public record.

(3) If information is requested of the department of labor and industry in making a report under this section, the department may charge reasonable fees commensurate with the costs of producing the information.

Section 5. Section 2-15-1730, MCA, is amended to read:


accordance with [section 1], there is an alternative health care board.

(2) The board consists of six members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate.
The members are:

(a) two persons members from each of the health care professions regulated by the board who have been actively engaged in the practice of their respective professions for at least 3 years preceding appointment to the board;

(b) one public member who is not a member of a profession regulated by the board; and

(c) one public member.

(3) The members must have been residents of this state for at least 3 years before appointment to the board.

(4) All members shall serve staggered 4-year terms. The governor may remove a member from the board for neglect of a duty required by law, for incompetency, or for unprofessional or dishonorable conduct.

(5) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only, as prescribed in 2-15-121.“

Section 6. Section 2-15-1731, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1731. Board of medical examiners. (1) In accordance with [section 1], there is a Montana state board of medical examiners.

(2) The board consists of 13 members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate. Appointments made when the legislature is not in session may be confirmed at the next session.

(3) The members are:

(a) five members having the degree of doctor of medicine, including one member with experience in emergency medicine;

(b) one member having the degree of doctor of osteopathy;

(c) one member who is a licensed podiatrist;

(d) one member who is a licensed nutritionist;

(e) one member who is a licensed physician assistant;

(f) one member who is a licensed acupuncturist;

(g) one member who is a volunteer emergency care provider, as defined in 50-6-202, who may be
(h) two public members of the general public who are not medical practitioners.

(4) (a) The members having the degree of doctor of medicine may not be from the same county.

(b) The volunteer emergency care provider must have a demonstrated interest in and knowledge of state and national issues involving emergency medical service and community-integrated health care.

(c) Each member must be a citizen of the United States.

(d) Each member, except for public members, must have been licensed and must have practiced medicine, acupuncture, emergency medical care, or dietetics-nutrition in this state for at least 5 years and must have been a resident of this state for at least 5 years.

(5) Members shall serve staggered 4-year terms. A term begins on September 1 of each year of appointment. A member may be removed by the governor for neglect of duty, incompetence, or unprofessional or dishonorable conduct.

(6) (3) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

**Section 7.** Section 2-15-1732, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1732. Board of dentistry. (1) There is a board of dentistry.

(2) The board consists of five dentists, one denturist, two dental hygienists, and two public members, one of whom must be a senior citizen. All members are appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate. Each licensed member must be licensed to practice as a dentist, denturist, or dental hygienist in this state, must have actively practiced in this state for at least 5 continuous years immediately before the member's appointment, and must be actively engaged in practice while serving on the board. Each member must be a resident of this state. ten members:

(a) five dentists;

(b) one denturist;

(c) two dental hygienists; and

(d) two public members."
(3) Each member shall serve for a term of 5 years. The governor may remove a member only for neglect or cause.

(4) The governor shall fill any vacancy within 30 days.

(5) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 8. Section 2-15-1733, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1733. Board of pharmacy. (1) There is a board of pharmacy.

(2) The board consists of seven members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate. Four members must be licensed pharmacists, one member must be a registered pharmacy technician, and two members must be from the general public; six members:

(a) Each licensed pharmacist member must have graduated and received the first professional undergraduate degree from the school of pharmacy of the university of Montana-Missoula or from an accredited pharmacy degree program that has been approved by the board. Each licensed pharmacist member must have at least 5 consecutive years of practical experience as a pharmacist immediately before appointment to the board. A licensed pharmacist member who, during the member’s term of office, ceases to be actively engaged in the practice of pharmacy in this state must be automatically disqualified from membership on the board, four pharmacists;

(b) A registered pharmacy technician member must have at least 5 consecutive years of practical experience as a pharmacy technician immediately before appointment to the board. A registered pharmacy technician member who, during the member’s term of office, ceases to be actively engaged as a pharmacy technician in this state must be automatically disqualified from membership on the board; and

(c) Each public member of the board must be a resident of the state and may not be or ever have been:

(i) a member of the profession of pharmacy or the spouse of a member of the profession of pharmacy;

(ii) a person having any material financial interest in the providing of pharmacy services; or
(iii) a person who has engaged in any activity directly related to the practice of pharmacy.

(3) Members shall serve staggered 5-year terms. A member may not serve more than two consecutive full terms. For the purposes of this section, an appointment to fill an unexpired term does not constitute a full term.

(4) A member must be removed from office by the governor:

(a) upon proof of malfeasance or misfeasance in office, after reasonable notice of charges against the member and after a hearing; or

(b) upon refusal or inability to perform the duties of a board member in an efficient, responsible, and professional manner.

(5)(3) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."
(b) **two practical nurses. Each must:** 
(i) be a graduate of a school of practical nursing; 
(ii) be a licensed practical nurse in this state; 
(iii) have had at least 5 years' experience as a practical nurse; and 
(iv) be currently engaged in the practice of practical nursing and have practiced for at least 5 years.

(c) **two public members who are not medical practitioners, involved in the practice of nursing or employment of nursing, or administrators of Montana health care facilities.** one public member.

(3) All members must have been residents of this state for at least 1 year before appointment and must be citizens of the United States.

(4) All members shall serve staggered 4-year terms, and a member may not be appointed for more than two consecutive terms. The governor may remove a member from the board for neglect of a duty required by law or for incompetency or unprofessional or dishonorable conduct.

(5) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121.”

**Section 10.** Section 2-15-1735, MCA, is amended to read:

“2-15-1735. **Board of nursing home administrators.** (1) There-In accordance with [section 1], there is a board of nursing home administrators.

(2) The board consists of six voting members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate:

(a) Three members must be nursing home administrators; one member shall represent the public at large and must be 55 years of age or older at the time of appointment. The other

(b) two members must be representatives of professions or institutions concerned with the care of chronically ill and infirm aged patients; and that may not be from the same profession or have a financial interest in a nursing home; and

(c) one public member.

(3) The director of the department of public health and human services or the director's designee is an ex officio, nonvoting member of the board.
Section 11. Section 2-15-1736, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1736. Board of optometry. (1) There is a board of optometry.

(2) The board consists of five members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate:

(a) Four members must be registered optometrists of this state and actually engaged in the exclusive practice of optometry in this state during their terms of office; and

(b) One public member must be a representative of the public who is not engaged in the practice of optometry.

(3) Members shall serve staggered 4-year terms.

(4) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 12. Section 2-15-1737, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1737. Board of chiropractors. (1) There is a board of chiropractors.

(2) The board consists of five members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate:

(a) Four members must be practicing chiropractors of integrity and ability who are residents of this state and who have practiced chiropractic continuously in this state for at least 1 year; and

(b) One public member must be a representative of the public who is not engaged in the practice of chiropractic.

(3) Each member shall serve for a term of 3 years. No member may be appointed for more than two consecutive terms. A member may be removed from office by the governor on sufficient proof of the member's
inability or misconduct.

(4)(3) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 13. Section 2-15-1738, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1738. Board of radiologic technologists. (1) There in accordance with [section 1], there is a board of radiologic technologists.

(2) The board consists of seven five members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate, including:

(a) a radiologist licensed to practice medicine in Montana;

(b) a person granted a permit issued by the board pursuant to 37-14-306 one limited permit technician:

(c) a public member; and

(d) four licensed two radiologic technologists registered with the American registry of radiologic technologists (ARRT), including one radiologist assistant or radiology practitioner assistant licensed under 37-14-313; and

(d) one public member.

(3) Vacancies in unexpired terms must be filled for the remainder of the term.

(4) Each member shall serve 3-year terms.

(5) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 14. Section 2-15-1739, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1739. Board of speech-language pathologists and audiologists. (1) There in accordance with [section 1], there is a board of speech-language pathologists and audiologists.

(2) The board consists of five members who shall:

(a) be appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate two speech-language pathologists:
(b) have been residents of this state for at least 1 year immediately preceding their appointment to two audiologists; and

(c) have been engaged in rendering services to the public, teaching, or performing research in the field of speech-language pathology or audiology for at least 5 years immediately preceding their appointment to one public member.

(3) At least two members of the board shall be speech-language pathologists and at least two shall be audiologists, with the remaining member to be a public member who is a consumer of speech-language pathology or audiology services and who is not a licentiate of the board or of any other board within the department. All board members, except the public member, shall at all times be validly licensed in speech-language pathology or audiology.

(4) Appointments shall be for 3-year terms with no person eligible to serve more than two full consecutive terms. Terms begin on the first day of the calendar year and end on the last day of the calendar year.

(5) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 15. Section 2-15-1740, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1740. Board of hearing aid dispensers. (1) There is a board of hearing aid dispensers.

(2) The board consists of five members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate, including:

(a) three members, each of whom must possess a current hearing aid dispenser license issued under Title 37, chapter 16, and have been a licensed hearing aid dispenser for at least 5 years before being appointed to the board of hearing aid dispensers; and

(b) two public members, at least one of whom may not be or have been an otolaryngologist, a licensed hearing aid dispenser, or a licensed audiologist, and at least one of whom must regularly use a hearing aid because of a demonstrated hearing impairment. One public member may meet both the conditions in this subsection (2)(b)."
(3) Each member shall serve for 3-year terms. A member may not be reappointed within 1 year after the expiration of the member's second consecutive full term.

(4)(3) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 16. Section 2-15-1741, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1741. Board of psychologists. (1) There  is a board of psychologists.

(2) The board consists of six members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate:

(a) Two members must be licensed psychologists engaged in private practice;

(b) one member must be a licensed psychologist engaged in public health;

(c) one member must be a licensed psychologist engaged in the teaching of psychology;

(d) one member must be a behavior analyst licensed under Title 37, chapter 17, part 4; and

(e) one public member must be from the general public. A member may not serve more than two consecutive 5-year terms.

(3) Members shall serve staggered 5-year terms.

(4)(3) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."
by the American veterinary medical association. Each veterinarian member must have actually and legally practiced veterinary medicine in either private practice or public service in this state for at least 5 years immediately before appointment.

(4) Each member shall serve for a term of 5 years. The governor may, after notice and hearing, remove a member for misconduct, incapacity, or neglect of duty.

(5) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as provided in 2-15-121.

2-15-1742. (Effective January 1, 2023) Board of veterinary medicine. (1) There is a board of veterinary medicine.

(2) The board consists of seven members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate.

(a) Five members must be veterinarians licensed under Title 37, chapter 18;

(b) one member must be a veterinary technician licensed under Title 37, chapter 18;

(c) one public member must be a public member who is a consumer of veterinary services and is not a licensee of the board or of any other board under the department of labor and industry.

(3)(a) Each veterinarian board member must be a reputable licensed veterinarian who has graduated from a college that is authorized by law to confer degrees and that has educational standards equal to those approved by the American veterinary medical association. Each veterinarian board member must have actually and legally practiced veterinary medicine in either private practice or public service in this state for at least 5 years immediately before appointment.

(b) The individual initially appointed as the licensed veterinary technician board member must have practiced in this state for at least 5 years prior to January 1, 2023, and shall obtain a license under Title 37, chapter 18, as a licensed veterinary technician by the time the individual becomes a board member. An individual appointed subsequent to the initial appointment must only meet the requirement that the individual be a veterinary technician licensed under Title 37, chapter 18.

(4)(a) Each member term is 5 years. A member may be reappointed.

(b) The governor may, after notice and hearing, remove a member for misconduct, incapacity, or neglect of duty.

(5) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as provided in 2-15-
Section 18. Section 2-15-1743, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1743. Board of funeral service. (1) There is a board of funeral service.

(2) The board consists of six members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate.

(a) Three members must be licensed morticians.

One member must be a representative of the public who is not engaged in the practice of mortuary science or funeral directing.

(b) One member must be a licensed crematory operator or crematory technician or a mortician who is engaged in a crematory operation.

(c) One member must be a representative of a cemetery company governed by Title 37, chapter 19, part 8; and

(d) one public member.

(3) Board members shall serve staggered 5-year terms.

(4) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 19. Section 2-15-1744, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1744. Board of behavioral health. (1) The governor shall appoint, with the consent of the senate, there is a board of behavioral health consisting of 11 members.

(2) The board consists of 11 members:

(a) Three members must be licensed clinical social workers.

(b) three professional counselors.

(c) One member must be appointed from and represent the general public and may not be engaged in social work.

(d) Two members must be addiction counselors.

(e) One member must be a certified behavioral peer support specialist."
(f) One member must be a licensed marriage and family therapist; and

(f) one public member.

(2)(3) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as provided in 2-15-121.

(3) Members shall serve staggered 4-year terms.”

Section 20. Section 2-15-1747, MCA, is amended to read:

“2-15-1747. Board of barbers and cosmetologists. (1) There is a board of barbers and cosmetologists.

(2) The board consists of nine members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate and must include:

(a) two licensed-cosmetologists each of whom has been a resident of this state for at least 5 years and has been actively engaged in the profession of cosmetology for at least 5 years immediately prior to being appointed to the board;

(b) one licensed-esthetician who has been a resident of this state for at least 5 years and has been actively engaged in the profession of esthetics for at least 5 years immediately prior to being appointed to the board;

(c) two licensed-barbers or barbers nonchemical, each of whom has been a resident of this state for at least 5 years and has been actively engaged in the profession of barbering for at least 5 years immediately prior to appointment to the board;

(d) one licensed-manicurist who has been a resident of this state for at least 5 years and has been actively engaged in the profession of manicuring for at least 5 years immediately prior to being appointed to the board;

(e) two members, either licensed or not licensed under Title 37, chapter 31, who are affiliated, as defined in 37-31-101, with a school for at least 5 years immediately prior to being appointed to the board regulated under Title 37, chapter 31; and

(f) one public member of the public who is not licensed under Title 37, chapter 31.

(3) If there is not a licensed barber, barber nonchemical, esthetician, or manicurist who is qualified
and willing to serve on the board in one of the positions under subsections (2)(b), (2)(c), and (2)(d), the
governor may appoint a cosmetologist otherwise qualified under this section to fill the position.

(4) Each member shall serve for a term of up to 5 years. The terms must be staggered.

(5) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 21. Section 2-15-1748, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1748. Board of physical therapy examiners. (1) There is a board of physical therapy examiners.

(2) The board consists of five members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate
for terms of 3 years. The members are:

(a) four physical therapists licensed under Title 37, chapter 11, who have been actively engaged in
the practice of physical therapy for the 3 years preceding appointment to the board; and

(b) one public member of the general public who is not a physician or a physical therapist.

(3) Each member must have been a resident of Montana for the 3 years preceding appointment to the
board.

(4) A vacancy on the board must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment. These
appointments may be made only for the unexpired portions of the term.

(5) A member may not be appointed for more than two consecutive terms.

(6) The governor may remove any board member for negligence in performance of any duty required
by law and for incompetence or unprofessional or dishonorable conduct.

(7) A board member is not liable to civil action for any act performed in good faith in the execution of
the duties required by Title 37, chapter 11.

(8) The board shall provide for its organizational structure by rule, which must include a presiding
officer, vice presiding officer, and secretary-treasurer.

(9) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."
Section 22. Section 2-15-1749, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1749. Board of occupational therapy practice. (1) There is a board of occupational therapy practice.

(2) The board consists of five members appointed by the governor. The members are:

(a) three occupational therapists licensed under Title 37, chapter 24, who are actively engaged in the practice or teaching of occupational therapy; and

(b) two public members of the general public with an interest in the rights of the consumers of health services.

(3) The Montana occupational therapy association may submit names of nominees under subsection (2)(a) of this section to the governor as provided in 37-1-132.

(4) Each appointment is subject to confirmation by the senate then meeting in regular session or next meeting in regular session following appointment.

(5) Members shall serve staggered 4-year terms. A term begins on the first day of the calendar year and ends on the last day of the calendar year or when a successor is appointed. A member who has served two successive complete terms is not eligible for reappointment until after 1 year.

(6) The governor may, after hearing, remove a member for neglect of duty or other just cause.

(7) The board is allocated to the department of labor and industry for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 23. Section 2-15-1750, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1750. Board of respiratory care practitioners. (1) There is a board of respiratory care practitioners. The board consists of five members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate. Each member must be a citizen of the United States and a resident of this state. The governor may request advice from the Montana society for respiratory care in making appointments to the board.

(2) The board consists of five members:

(a) subject to subsection (3), three respiratory care practitioners, each of whom has engaged in the practice of respiratory care for a period of at least 3 years immediately preceding appointment to the board;
(b) one respiratory care practitioner who has engaged in the practice of respiratory care for at least 3 years immediately prior to appointment and who specializes in pulmonary functions or sleep studies; and

(c) one public member of the public who is not a member of a health care profession.

(3) At least one of the members appointed under subsection (2)(a) must have passed the registry examination for respiratory therapists administered by the national board for respiratory care, and at least one of the members must have passed the entry-level examination for certified respiratory therapists administered by the national board for respiratory care.

(4) Members shall serve staggered 4-year terms.

(5)(3) The board is allocated to the department of labor and industry for administrative purposes only as provided in 2-15-121."

Section 24. Section 2-15-1751, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1751. Board of sanitarians. (1) There In accordance with [section 1], there is a board of sanitarians.

(2) The board consists of five members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate. Each member must be a resident of this state, and:

(a) three of the members must be registered sanitarians; and

(b) two public members must be from the public but not sanitarians and shall represent the interests of the public at large. Each sanitarian member must have a minimum of 3 years of experience practicing as a sanitarian in the state of Montana.

(3) Members shall serve staggered 3-year terms that expire on July 1 of a given year.

(4) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 25. Section 2-15-1753, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1753. Board of clinical laboratory science practitioners. (1) There In accordance with [section 1], there is a board of clinical laboratory science practitioners.

(2) The board is composed consists of five members who have been residents of this state for at
least 2 years prior to appointment:.

(3) Members are appointed by the governor, with consent of the senate. The members are:

(a) four clinical laboratory science practitioners who hold active licenses as clinical laboratory science practitioners in Montana; and
(b) one public member who is not associated with or financially interested in the practice of clinical laboratory science.

(4) Members shall serve staggered 4-year terms. A member may not serve more than two consecutive terms.

(5) Whenever a vacancy occurs on the board during a term of office, the governor shall appoint a successor with similar qualifications for the remainder of the unexpired term.

(6)(3) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only, as provided in 2-15-121.

(7) Members of the board are entitled to compensation and travel expenses as provided for in 2-18-501 through 2-18-503."

Section 26. Section 2-15-1756, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1756. Board of public accountants. (1) There is a board of public accountants.

(2) The board consists of five members appointed by the governor. The members are:

(a) five certified public accountants licensed under Title 37, chapter 50, who are actively engaged in the practice of public accounting and who have held a valid license for at least 5 years before being appointed; and
(b) two members of the general public who are not engaged in the practice of public accounting.

(3) Professional associations of public accountants may submit to the governor a list of names of two candidates for each position from which the appointment pursuant to subsection (2)(a) may be made. However, the governor is not restricted to the names on the list.

(4) Each appointment is subject to confirmation by the senate and must be submitted for
consideration at the next regular session following appointment.

(5) The members shall serve staggered 4-year terms. The governor may remove a member for neglect of duty or other just cause.

(6) The board is allocated to the department of labor and industry for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121, except that the provisions of 2-15-121(2)(b) do not apply. (Bracketed language terminates September 30, 2023—sec. 5, Ch. 50, L. 2019.)

Section 27. Section 2-15-1757, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1757. Board of realty regulation. (1) There is a board of realty regulation.

(2) The board consists of seven members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate:

(a) Five members must be licensed real estate brokers, salespeople, or property managers who are actively engaged in the real estate business as a broker, a salesperson, or a property manager in this state.

(b) Two members must be representatives of the public who are not state government officers or employees and who are not engaged in business as a real estate broker, a salesperson, or a property manager.

(c) One public member.

(3) The members shall serve staggered terms of 4 years. A member may not serve more than two consecutive terms or any portion of two consecutive terms.

(4) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 28. Section 2-15-1758, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1758. Board of real estate appraisers. (1) There is a board of real estate appraisers.

(2) The board consists of seven members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate:"

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(3)(a) Five members must be licensed or certified four real estate appraisers for a minimum of 3 years, of whom two members are certified general appraisers and two members are certified residential appraisers; and

(b) two members must be representatives of the public who are not engaged in the occupation of real estate appraisal one public member.

(4) A screening panel of the board, established pursuant to 37-1-307, must be composed of at least three members and shall include one member of the board who represents the public and is not engaged in the occupation of real estate appraisal. Any determination that a licensee has violated a statute or rule in a manner that justifies disciplinary proceedings must be concurred in by a majority of the members of the screening panel.

(5) Members shall serve staggered 3-year terms. A member may not serve for more than three consecutive terms.

(6)(3) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only, as prescribed in 2-15-121.

(7) A board member may be removed from the board by the governor for neglect or cause.

(8) The board shall meet at least once each calendar quarter to transact its business.

(9) The board shall elect a presiding officer from among its members.

(10) A board member must receive compensation and travel expenses, as provided in 37-1-133."

Section 29. Section 2-15-1761, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1761. Board of architects and landscape architects. (1) There is a board of architects and landscape architects.

(2) The board consists of six members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate. The members are:

(a) two licensed architects who have been in continuous practice for 3 years before their appointment;

(b) one licensed architect who is on the staff of the Montana state university-Bozeman school of architecture;"
(c) one representative of the public who is not engaged in or directly connected with the practice of architecture or landscape architecture; and

(d) two licensed landscape architects; and

(c) one public member.

(3) Each member must have been a resident of Montana for 4 years prior to appointment.

(4) Each member shall serve for a term of 3 years.

(5) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 30. Section 2-15-1763, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1763. Board of professional engineers and professional land surveyors. (1) In accordance with [section 1], there is a board of professional engineers and professional land surveyors.

(2) The board consists of nine members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate. The members are:

(a) five professional engineers who have been engaged in the practice of engineering for at least 12 years and who have been in responsible charge of engineering teaching or important engineering work for at least 5 years and licensed in Montana for at least 5 years work or have teaching experience at one or more schools of engineering. No more than two of these members may be from the same branch of engineering.

(b) two professional and practicing land surveyors who have been engaged in the practice of land surveying for at least 12 years and who have been in responsible charge of land surveying or important land surveying work for at least 5 years and licensed in Montana for at least 5 years; and

(c) two representatives of the public who are not engaged in or directly connected with the practice of engineering or land surveying public members.

(3) Each member must be a citizen of the United States and a resident of this state. A member, after serving three consecutive terms, may not be reappointed.

(4)(a) Except as provided in subsection (4)(b), each member shall serve for a term of 4 years.

(b) The governor may remove a member for misconduct, incompetency, or neglect of duty or for any other sufficient cause and may shorten the term of one public member so that it is not coincident with the term
of the other public member.

(5)(4) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only, as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 31. Section 2-15-1764, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1764. State electrical board. (1) In accordance with [section 1], there is a state electrical board.

(2) The board consists of five members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate, who must be residents of this state:

Two members of the board shall represent the public.

(a) Two members of the board must be licensed electricians. One member must be a one master licensed-electrician;

(b) or a licensed electrician one journeyman electrician;

(c) one electrician who is a master licensed electrician or a licensed electrician who holds an unlimited electrical contractor license; and

(d) two public members.

(3) The members of the board shall serve for a term of 5 years with their terms of office arranged so that one term expires on July 1 of each year.

(4)(3) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 32. Section 2-15-1765, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1765. Board of plumbers. (1) In accordance with [section 1], there is a board of plumbers.

(2) The board consists of nine members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate. The members are:

(a) two master plumbers and ;

(b) two journeyman journey level plumbers who are 18 years of age or older, who have been
residents of this state for more than 1 year, and who have been duly licensed master or journeyman plumbers at least 5 out of the last 8 years immediately preceding their appointment;

(b)(c) one registered professional engineer qualified in mechanical engineering;

(c) three representatives of the public who are not engaged in the business of installing or selling plumbing equipment; and

(d) one representative of the department of environmental quality, who must have experience in the regulation of drinking water systems; and

(e) one public member.

(3) The appointed members of the board shall serve for terms of 4 years.

(4) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 33. Section 2-15-1771, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1771. Board of athletic trainers. (1) There is a board of athletic trainers.

(2) The board consists of five members appointed by the governor as follows:

(a) one member who is a physician licensed under Title 37, chapter 3, preferably with a background in the practice of sports medicine;

(b) three members who are athletic trainers who have been engaged in the practice of athletic training in the state for at least 2 years prior to being appointed. After the initial appointments are made to establish the board, each of the three members must be licensed as an athletic trainer under Title 37, chapter 36. Of these three members, at the time of appointment:

(i) one must be employed by or retired from employment with a athletic trainer with experience in one or more postsecondary institution in Montana educational institutions;

(ii) one must be employed in or retired from a athletic trainer with experience in one or more secondary school in Montana schools; and

(iii) one must be employed by or retired from a athletic trainer with experience in one or more health care facility or an athletic facility in Montana facilities; and
(c) one public member of the public who is not engaged in or directly connected with the practice of athletic training.

(3) There may be no more than one retired athletic trainer serving on the board at anytime.

(4) A vacancy on the board must be filled for an unexpired term to maintain the representation provided in subsection (2).

(5)(3) The board is attached to the department for administrative purposes only, as prescribed in 2-15-121, to the department of labor and industry.

(6)(4) Members must be compensated as provided in 2-18-501 through 2-18-503.

(7) Members shall serve 4-year, staggered terms. A member may be reappointed for one consecutive term. A member who is reappointed must be eligible under the same criteria as when first appointed.

(8) For the purposes of this section, an appointment to fill an unexpired term does not constitute a full term.

(9) The governor may remove a member from the board for neglect of duty, for incompetency, or for cause.

Section 34. Section 2-15-1773, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1773. Board of outfitters. (1) There is a board of outfitters.

(2) The board consists of the following five members to be appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate:

(a) one outfitter licensed for both hunting and fishing, representing a public land hunting and fishing outfitter knowledgeable in government permitting and preferably with a packing endorsement; and

(b) one outfitter licensed only as a fishing outfitter;

(c) one outfitter representing a private land hunting outfit;

(d) one outfitter licensed for both hunting and fishing, with their business being predominately fishing; and

(e) one member of the general public who is a Montana-based business owner who engages in
nonoutfitted business that is reliant on the local outdoor recreation industry

(e) one public member who is a Montana-based business owner who engages in nonoutfitted business that is reliant on the local outdoor recreation industry.

(3) A favorable vote of at least a majority of all members of the board is required to adopt any resolution, motion, or other decision.

(4) A vacancy on the board must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

(5) The members shall serve staggered 3-year terms and take office on the day they are appointed.

(6) The board is allocated to the department of labor and industry for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121.

(7) Each member of the board is entitled to receive compensation and travel expenses as provided for in 37-1-133."

Section 35. Section 2-15-1781, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1781. Board of private security. (1) There is a board of private security.

(2) The board consists of seven voting members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate. The members shall represent:

(a) one contract-security company or proprietary security organization, as defined by 37-60-101;
(b) one electronic security company, as defined by 37-60-101;
(c) one city police department chief;
(d) one county sheriff's office sheriff;
(e) one member of the public;
(f) one member of the Montana public safety officer standards and training council; and
(g) a licensed private investigator or a registered process server; and

(g) one public member.

(3) Members of the board must be at least 25 years of age and have been residents of this state for more than 5 years.

(4) The appointed members of the board shall serve for terms of 3 years. The terms of board
members must be staggered.

(5) The governor may remove a member for misconduct, incompetency, neglect of duty, or unprofessional or dishonorable conduct.

(6) A vacancy on the board must be filled in the same manner as the original appointment and may be only for the unexpired portion of the term.

(7) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 36. Section 2-15-1782, MCA, is amended to read:

"2-15-1782. Board of massage therapy. (1) There is a board of massage therapy.

(2) The board consists of five members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate. The members are:

   (a) one representative of the public who is not a medical practitioner or an owner of a school that educates massage therapists and is not engaged in or directly connected with the practice of massage therapy;

   (b) one member who is a licensed health care provider in good standing in Montana and who is not an owner of a school that educates massage therapists; and

   (c) three massage therapists, none of whom may be an owner of a school that educates massage therapists, who have been actively engaged in the practice of massage therapy for at least 3 years prior to being appointed to the board. None of the three massage therapists may belong to the same national professional association. After the initial appointments are made to establish the board, each of the three members must be licensed as a massage therapist under Title 37, chapter 33. None of the three massage therapists may belong to the same national professional association.

   (c) one public member.

(3) Members shall serve 4-year, staggered terms. The governor may remove a member from the board for neglect of duty required by law, for incompetence, or for unprofessional or dishonorable conduct.

(4) The governor shall make the initial appointments to the board as follows:

   (a) one person who is a massage therapist to serve a 2-year term;
(b) one person who is a massage therapist to serve a 3-year term; and

(c) one person who is a massage therapist to serve a 4-year term.

(5) At the expiration of terms provided in subsection (4), the governor shall appoint the person designated to fill each position to a 4-year term.

(6)[(3) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 37. Section 37-1-133, MCA, is amended to read:

"37-1-133. Board members' compensation and expenses. Unless otherwise provided by law, each member of a board allocated to the department is entitled to receive $50 $100 per day compensation and travel expenses, as provided for in 2-18-501 through 2-18-503, for each day spent on official board business. Board members who conduct official board business in their city of residence are entitled to receive a midday meal allowance, as provided for in 2-18-502. Ex officio board members may not receive compensation but shall must receive travel expenses."

Section 38. Repealer. The following section of the Montana Code Annotated is repealed:

2-8-403. Intent to combine profession or occupation with existing board.

Section 39. Codification instruction. [Sections 1 and 2] are intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 37, chapter 1, and the provisions of Title 37, chapter 1, apply to [sections 1 and 2].

Section 40. Saving clause. (1) To the extent that [section 1] applies to board member term length and the number of terms for which a board member may be appointed, [section 1] solely applies to appointments made on or after [the effective date of this act].

(2) Nothing in [sections 7, 8, 9, 13, 17, 26, 27, 28, 29, and 32] reduces the term, authority, or obligations of a board member who was appointed before [the effective date of this act]. Elimination of a board position occurs at the earlier of:

(a) the resignation of the first board member who meets the qualifications of the eliminated
position; or

(b) the ending of the appointed term of the first board member who meets the qualifications of the eliminated position.

(3) Staggering of board member terms must be effectuated during the appointment process by the governor designating the term start and end dates. The governor shall, as closely as possible, designate term start and end dates to appoint one-quarter of each board each calendar year.

Section 41. Coordination instruction. If both Senate Bill No. 453 and [this act] are passed and approved and if both amend 2-15-1730, then [section 1 of Senate Bill No. 453], amending 2-15-1730, is void, and [section 5 of this act], amending 2-15-1730, must be amended as follows:

"2-15-1730. Alternative health care board -- composition -- terms -- allocation. (1) There is an alternative health care board.

(2) The board consists of six members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate. The members are:

(a) two members from each of the health care professions regulated by the board who have been actively engaged in the practice of their respective professions for at least 3 years preceding appointment to the board;

(b) one public member who is not a member of a profession regulated by the board; and

(c) one member who is a Montana physician whose practice includes obstetrics; and

(3) The members must have been residents of this state for at least 3 years before appointment to the board.

(4) All members shall serve staggered 4-year terms. The governor may remove a member from the board for neglect of a duty required by law, for incompetency, or for unprofessional or dishonorable conduct.

(5) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only, as prescribed in 2-15-121."

Section 42. Coordination instruction. If both Senate Bill No. 453 and [this act] are passed and
approved and if both amend 2-15-1731, then [section 2 of Senate Bill No. 453], amending 2-15-1731, is void, and [section 6 of this act], amending 2-15-1731, must be amended as follows:

"2-15-1731. Board of medical examiners. (1) There is a Montana state board of medical examiners.

(2) The board consists of 13 members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate. Appointments made when the legislature is not in session may be confirmed at the next session.

(3) The members are:

(a) five members having the degree of doctor of medicine, including one member with experience in emergency medicine, none of whom may be from the same county;

(b) one member having the degree of doctor of osteopathy;

(c) one member who is a licensed podiatrist;

(d) one member who is a licensed nutritionist;

(e) one member who is a licensed physician assistant;

(f) one member who is a licensed acupuncturist;

(g) one member who is a volunteer emergency care provider, as defined in 50-6-202, who may be a volunteer emergency care provider; and

(h) two members of the general public who are not medical practitioners.

(4) (a) The members having the degree of doctor of medicine may not be from the same county.

(b) The volunteer emergency care provider must have a demonstrated interest in and knowledge of state and national issues involving emergency medical service and community-integrated health care.

(c) Each member must be a citizen of the United States.

(d) Each member, except for public members, must have been licensed and must have practiced medicine, acupuncture, emergency medical care, or dietetics-nutrition in this state for at least 5 years and must have been a resident of this state for at least 5 years.

(5) Members shall serve staggered 4-year terms. A term begins on September 1 of each year of appointment. A member may be removed by the governor for neglect of duty, incompetence, or unprofessional or dishonorable conduct.

(6) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-
Section 43. Coordination instruction. If both Senate Bill No. 456 and [this act] are passed and approved and if Senate Bill No. 456 repeals 2-15-1740, then [section 15 of this act], amending 2-15-1740, is void.

Section 44. Coordination instruction. If both Senate Bill No. 457 and [this act] are passed and approved and if Senate Bill No. 457 repeals 2-15-1751, then [section 24 of this act], amending 2-15-1751, is void.

Section 45. Coordination instruction. If both Senate Bill No. 455 and [this act] are passed and approved and if both amend 2-15-1757, then [section 9 of Senate Bill No. 455], amending 2-15-1757, is void, and [section 27 of this act], amending 2-15-1757, must be amended as follows:

"2-15-1757. Board of realty regulation. (1) There In accordance with [section 1], there is a board of realty regulation.

(2) The board consists of seven-five members appointed by the governor with the consent of the senate:

(a) Five members must be licensed four real estate brokers, or salespeople, or property managers who are actively engaged in the real estate business as a broker, a salesperson, or a property manager in this state. Two members must be representatives of the public who are not state government officers or employees and who are not engaged in business as a real estate broker, a salesperson, or a property manager. The members must be residents of this state.; and

(b) one public member

(3) The members shall serve staggered terms of 4 years. A member may not serve more than two consecutive terms or any portion of two consecutive terms.

(4)(3) The board is allocated to the department for administrative purposes only as prescribed in 2-15-121."
Section 46. Coordination instruction. If both Senate Bill No. 454 and [this act] are passed and approved, and if Senate Bill No. 454 repeals 2-15-1781, then [section 35 of this act], amending 2-15-1781, is void.

Section 47. Saving clause. [This act] does not affect rights and duties that matured, penalties that were incurred, or proceedings that were begun before [the effective date of this act].

Section 48. Effective date. [This act] is effective July 1, 2023.

- END -
I hereby certify that the within bill, 
HB 87, originated in the House.

___________________________________________
Chief Clerk of the House

___________________________________________
Speaker of the House

Signed this ______________________ day
of ____________________________, 2023.

___________________________________________
President of the Senate

Signed this ______________________ day
of ____________________________, 2023.