# **Summary of Legislation**

2025



## **Professions and Occupations**

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During the 2025 legislative session, the Colorado General Assembly considered several measures to change or expand the regulation of certain professions including physicians and other medical professionals, motor vehicle dealers, plumbers, electricians, and real estate appraisers. The General Assembly also passed several laws continuing the regulation of certain professions under the state sunrise and sunset review process.

### **Changes to Regulated Professions**

The General Assembly established new regulatory requirements for speech-language pathology assistants (SLPA). Under House Bill 25-1075, only individuals who possess a bachelor's degree or higher in a related field, complete a SLPA program, and fulfill at least 100 hours of practice may use the title of speech-language pathology assistant. The bill also expands the supervisory requirements and disciplinary actions for certified speech language pathologists.

The Auto Industry Division and the Motor Vehicle Dealer Board license motor vehicle dealers and sales persons. Under current law, applications and licenses must be denied or revoked if, within the last 10 years, the applicant or licensee has been convicted of certain felonies or motor vehicle fraud.

<u>Senate Bill 25-075</u> shortens the mandatory denial/revocation period to three years.

Under current law, the statute of limitations for claims against a real estate appraiser begins when the party discovers a defect in the appraisal. Senate Bill 25-035 requires any legal action to be entered within five years of the appraisal report. The bill specifies that actions for fraud must be entered within three years and that actions related to discriminatory housing practices must be entered within one year.

Current law exempts highly compensated workers from prohibitions on non-compete agreements. Under Senate Bill 25-083, these exemptions will not apply to physicians, nurses, or dentists. The bill prohibits any agreement that restricts a provider who leaves a practice from informing their patients about their new practice. Further, the bill exempts the purchase or sale of ownership shares or partial sales of a joint business from prohibitions on non-compete agreements.

House Bill 25-1284 prohibits employers from registering apprenticed plumbing or electrical employees unless the apprenticeship program is for an electrical or plumbing occupation recognized by the US Department of Labor. This prohibition only

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applies to employees participating in an apprenticeship program registered with the Colorado Department of Labor and Employment.

House Bill 25-1077 specifies that inspection, testing, or repair of backflow prevention devices does not require plumbing licensure. A license is still required for the installation or removal of such devices.

Senate Bill 25-165 updates electrician licensing requirements and regulation of electrical work on photovoltaic systems under the Electricians' Practice Act. The bill permits acceptance of academic training as a substitute for practical experience in license application decisions and includes photovoltaic system installation training as replacement for practical experience. License applicants may use practical experience in photovoltaic system installation for license requirements.

#### **Sunrise and Sunset Reviews**

The Workers' Compensation Accreditation of Health Care Providers Program registers and trains health care providers who treat patients injured in the workplace and physicians who provide impairment evaluations of injured workers.

Senate Bill 25-186 continues the program in the Department of Labor and Employment until September 1, 2036 and expands the type of health care professionals eligible for accreditation to treat patients injured in the workplace.

The Title Insurance Commission is an advisory body to the title insurance industry. Senate Bill 25-277 restructures the commission into an advisory group and continues the group until September 1, 2029. The restructuring makes the following changes to the responsibilities of the body, including:

- members are generally representatives of the title insurance industry;
- reduces the number of meetings from four to two per year;
- permits the group to make formal written recommendations to the state insurance commissioner; and
- eliminates funding for the administration of the group.

Senate Bill 25-194 continues the regulation of dentists to September 1, 2034. Among other things, the bill requires the Department of Regulatory Agencies (DORA) to adopt rules regarding legal training for initial licensure and clarifies that witnesses or consultants appearing or testifying during DORA proceedings are immune from civil liability.