

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 13, 2025

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2025–26 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 742

Introduced by Assembly Member Elhawary
(Principal coauthors: Assembly Members Bonta, Bryan, Gipson,
Jackson, McKinnor, Sharp-Collins, and Wilson)
(Principal coauthors: Senators Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, and
Weber Pierson)
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Lowenthal)

February 18, 2025

An act to add and repeal Section 115.7 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to professions and vocations.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 742, as amended, Elhawary. Department of Consumer Affairs: licensing: applicants who are descendants of slaves.

Existing law establishes the Department of Consumer Affairs, which is composed of specified boards that license and regulate various professions.

This bill would require those boards to prioritize applicants *seeking licensure* who are descendants of ~~slaves seeking licenses, especially applicants who are descended from a person enslaved within the United States~~. *American slaves once a process to certify descendants of American slaves is established, as specified. The bill would make those provisions operative when the certification process is established and would repeal those provisions 4 years from the date on which the provisions become operative or on January 1, 2032, whichever is earlier.*

This bill would make these provisions operative only if SB 518 of the 2025–26 Regular Session is enacted establishing the Bureau for Descendants of American Slavery, and would make these provisions operative when the certification process is established pursuant to that measure. The bill would repeal these provisions 4 years from the date on which they become operative or on January 1, 2032, whichever is earlier.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 115.7 is added to the Business and
2 Professions Code, to read:
3 115.7. (a) Notwithstanding any other law,~~a once the process~~
4 ~~to certify descendants of American slaves is established by the~~
5 ~~Bureau for Descendants of American Slavery pursuant to Part 15~~
6 ~~(commencing with Section 16000) of Division 3 of Title 2 of the~~
7 ~~Government Code that confirms an individual's status as a~~
8 ~~descendant of an American slave, each board shall prioritize~~
9 ~~applicants seeking licensure who are descendants of slaves seeking~~
10 ~~licenses, especially applicants who are descended from a person~~
11 ~~enslaved within the United States. American slaves.~~
12 (b) *This section shall become operative on the date that the*
13 *certification process for the descendants of American Slaves is*
14 *established by the Bureau for Descendants of American Slavery*
15 *pursuant to Part 15 (commencing with Section 16000) of Division*
16 *3 of Title 2 of the Government Code.*
17 (c) *This section shall remain in effect only for four years from*
18 *the date on which this section became operative, or until January*
19 *1, 2032, whichever is earlier, and as of that date is repealed.*
20 (d) *This section shall become operative only if Senate Bill 518*
21 *of the 2025–26 Regular Session is enacted establishing the Bureau*
22 *for Descendants of American Slavery.*

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2 REVISIONS:
3 Heading—Line 6.
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