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Hancock Files Bill to Reduce Occupational License Renewal Fees for New Parents

Legislation would limit license reactivation fees to one-third of normal cost

AUSTIN, TX - Chairman Kelly Hancock (R-North Richland Hills) this week filed legislation to reduce licensing reapplication and reactivation fees for new parents.

Senate Bill (SB) 787 would allow parents to re-up their occupational license at one-third the normal cost if they welcomed a new child by birth or adoption in the previous two years.

"Working moms and dads have a lot on their plate," said Hancock. "Lowering fees for new parents who need to renew their occupational license or certificate is just one small way to support Texans with growing families while at the same time removing a potential barrier to growing their careers."

There are currently more than six million occupational license holders in Texas, including over two million certified classroom teachers, 300,000 registered nurses, and 200,000 insurance agents.

Each license is governed by unique rules and requirements regarding reactivation timelines and fees, but all would be subject to the provisions of SB 787 if passed into law.

Occupational licensing reform legislation passed by Chairman Hancock in 2017 required the Texas Comptroller to assemble information on every occupational license in the state. That report is viewable online <u>here</u> and includes data on initial fees and renewal fees by license type.

To read the full text of SB 787 and follow its progress, visit Texas Legislature Online at <u>https://capitol.texas.gov/</u>.

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Sen. Hancock represents <u>District 9</u>, which includes portions of Dallas and Tarrant Counties. He currently serves as Chairman of the Texas Senate Committee on Business & Commerce and Vice Chair of the Texas Senate Committee on Transportation.