



June 10, 2022

The Honorable Richard D. Roth  
Chair  
Senate Business, Professions and  
Economic Development Committee  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chair Roth:

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce supports AB 1662, which would require a licensing board to establish a process by which prospective applicants may request a preapplication determination as to whether their criminal history could be cause for denial of a completed application for licensure by the board.

Under existing law, boards within the Department of Consumer Affairs may require licensing for various professions and vocations. A board may deny, suspend, or revoke a license on the grounds that an applicant or licensee has been subject to formal discipline or convicted of a crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the application is made.

The Chamber believes that a job is one of the best ways for people with criminal records not to re-offend. However, occupational licensing requirements often block or burden ex-offenders as they pursue new opportunities, sometimes after having invested resources into pursuing an occupation for which they are subsequently denied a license. AB 1662 would allow an ex-offender to petition a licensing board—before investing in training—for a determination that the ex-offender will not be disqualified from gaining a license because of past offenses. Having that determination would assist ex-offenders as they work to ensure that their path ahead leads to a better life.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

Glenn Spencer  
Senior Vice President  
Employment Policy Division  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce