

House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 191

SESSION: 1999 Regular Session

TOPIC: Disqualification from employment or occupation based upon criminal conviction

Date: May 20, 1999

Analyst: Judith Zollar, 651-296-1554

This publication can be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please call 651-296-6753 (voice); or the Minnesota State Relay Service at 1-800-627-3529 (TTY) for assistance. Summaries are also available on our website at: www.house.mn/hrd.

Overview

This act amends the law prohibiting disqualification in employment and occupational licensing based upon conviction for a crime by adding to the excluded types of employment and occupational licenses the licensing of taxicab drivers who have been discharged from a conviction for certain crimes within ten years of seeking a license.

- 1 Exceptions.** Current law prohibits disqualifying a person from public employment or any occupation for which a license is required solely or in part because of a prior conviction for a crime or crimes unless the crime or crimes for which the individual was convicted directly relate to the position of employment sought or the occupation for which the license is sought. Current law excludes certain types of employment and occupations from the provision prohibiting disqualification, including law enforcement agencies, fire protection agencies, school bus drivers, and others.

This bill adds to this exclusion the licensing by political subdivisions of taxicab drivers, if the license applicant has been discharged from a conviction for one of the following within ten years immediately preceding the license application:

- murder, manslaughter, criminal vehicular homicide and injury, assault in the first, second, or third degree, and criminal sexual conduct in the first through fifth degree;
- a crime involving the possession or sale of a controlled substance under chapter 152 that is punishable by a maximum sentence of 15 years or more; or
- a violation under chapter 169 involving driving under the influence, leaving the scene of an accident, or reckless or careless driving, where the offense involved personal injury or death.

- 2 Effective date.** The day following final enactment. Applies to all license applications pending

before a political subdivision.