

WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

- In current health care delivery model, payers and network contract agencies use Licensure Verification System where info is posted for the public to check for “healthcare provider fitness to practice” as part of credentialing and addition to approved network of providers.
- Most healthcare providers who entered and completed a peer assistance treatment program after 2017 (adoption of Public Chapter 481) have no information posted in the system. Healthcare providers who entered and completed the same peer assistance treatment programs before 2017 do have information posted in the system.
- This has created problems for those health care providers with information posted on-line, which has led to repetitive delays and difficulties for practitioners, especially pharmacists, to be able to be employed and/or credentialed.

HOW WILL SB 619/HB 657 SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS IN RECOVERY?

This bill will amend TCA §63-32-105 (the Health Care Consumer Right-to-Know Act of 1998) to allow any health care provider who has successfully completed a peer assistance treatment program to request to the applicable regulatory licensing board to remove any information made public under provisions in this law regarding adverse action taken their license or registration, which resulted in a consent order being issued and required completion of a peer assistance recovery program contract. This bill allows the applicable Board to remove this information if approved by the Board if it has been more than 10 years since the start date indicated in the consent order.



KEY POINTS FOR CONSIDERATION

- SB 619/HB 657 will not remove any information regarding any legal or disciplinary action or records in the file of a licensee or registrant in the applicable regulatory board.
- SB 619/HB 657 specifically limits the information that can be deleted.
- SB 619/HB 657 clearly define the decision on whether to delete information will be determined by the applicable Board and will not be automatic upon being requested.
- Will create a level right to work field for health care providers who have been disciplined and have completed a peer assistance treatment program under P.C.481 (2017) and those with the same experience before P.C. 481.

