

# SENATE, No. 3145

## STATE OF NEW JERSEY 219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 5, 2020

**Sponsored by:**

**Senator LINDA R. GREENSTEIN**

**District 14 (Mercer and Middlesex)**

**Senator NELLIE POU**

**District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)**

**SYNOPSIS**

Concerns names required on applications for professional and occupational licensure.

**CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT**

As introduced.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 11/16/2020)

1 AN ACT concerning the names required on applications for  
2 professional and occupational licensure and supplementing  
3 P.L.1978, c.73 (C.45:1-21 et seq.).  
4

5 **BE IT ENACTED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the State  
6 of New Jersey:  
7

8 1. a. An application to be completed for a professional or  
9 occupational license, certificate of registration, or certification, or  
10 for a renewal, reactivation or reinstatement of a professional or  
11 occupational license, certificate of registration, or certification,  
12 shall include:

13 (1) a line for the applicant to list a professional name;

14 (2) a line for the individual to list a legal name, if different from  
15 the professional name; and

16 (3) the ability for the applicant to choose which of the names is  
17 to appear on the license, certificate of registration or certification.

18 b. Notwithstanding any law, rule, or regulation to the contrary,  
19 this section shall apply to every applicant for or holder of a  
20 professional or occupational license, certificate of registration, or  
21 certification issued, renewed, reactivated, or reinstated by a board  
22 specified in section 2 of P.L.2013, c. 253 (C.45:1-15).  
23

24 2. This act shall take effect on the first day of the sixth month  
25 next following enactment, except that anticipatory administrative  
26 action in advance may be taken as necessary for the implementation  
27 of this act.  
28

29 STATEMENT  
30

31 This bill clarifies current State policy requiring an individual to  
32 list a legal name on an application when initially applying for or  
33 renewing, reactivating, or reinstating a professional or occupational  
34 license, certificate of registration, or certificate.

35 The bill requires applications for a professional and occupational  
36 license, certificate of registration, or certificate to include a line  
37 allowing an individual to list a professional name, a line for the  
38 individual to list a legal name, if different from the professional  
39 name, and the ability for the individual to choose which name is to  
40 appear on the license, certificate of registration, or certificate.

41 This bill allows individuals who practice a specific profession or  
42 occupation by one name to retain that name should the individual's  
43 legal name change. Allowing an individual who has built a business  
44 under one name to continue using it even if the surname of the  
45 individual legally changes will prevent confusion among consumers  
46 who are clients of that individual. It will also allow the individual to  
47 forgo any additional costs required to obtain an updated license,  
48 certificate of registration, or certification, and to update any  
49 business website, advertising, or marketing.