

House Bill 34 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representative Washburn of the 144<sup>th</sup>

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 1 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 general provisions regarding professions and businesses, so as to establish on behalf of  
3 professional licensing boards under the jurisdiction of the office of the Secretary of State a  
4 continuing education tracking solution to monitor compliance of licensees with applicable  
5 continuing education requirements; to provide for definitions; to require compliance with  
6 continuing education requirements prior to the issuance of certain licenses; to provide for the  
7 adoption of rules and regulations; to provide for related matters; to provide for an effective  
8 date; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

9 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

10 **SECTION 1.**

11 Chapter 1 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to general  
12 provisions regarding professions and businesses, is amended by adding a new Code section  
13 to read as follows:

14 "43-1-4.1.

15 (a) As used in this Code section, the term:

16 (1) 'License' means any document, permit, certificate of registration, or other  
17 authorization issued by or on behalf of a professional licensing board that is required for  
18 a person to engage in a profession, business, or trade.

19 (2) 'Licensee' means any person who is required to be licensed or who is actually  
20 licensed by a professional licensing board.

21 (b) The office of the Secretary of State on behalf of all professional licensing boards under  
22 its jurisdiction that require continuing education shall establish a continuing education  
23 tracking solution to monitor compliance of licensees with applicable continuing education  
24 requirements and to determine whether a licensee is in full compliance with such  
25 requirements at the time of making application for license renewal. Such tracking solution  
26 may be an off-premises hosted software-as-a-service application accessible through a  
27 public website. The Secretary of State may contract with third parties to implement,  
28 integrate, or otherwise provide such tracking system.

29 (c) On and after January 1, 2026, a professional licensing board shall not renew a license  
30 until the applicant has complied with all applicable continuing education requirements as  
31 verified using the continuing education tracking solution required by subsection (b) of this  
32 Code section. Nothing in this subsection shall prohibit a professional licensing board from  
33 granting a waiver or imposing additional penalties as otherwise provided by law or by the  
34 rules or regulations of the applicable board for failure to comply with continuing education  
35 requirements.

36 (d) The professional licensing boards and the division director may adopt any rules and  
37 regulations necessary to implement this Code section."

38 **SECTION 2.**

39 This Act shall become effective upon its approval by the Governor or upon its becoming law  
40 without such approval.

41

**SECTION 3.**

42 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.