



Ninety-Seventh Legislature - First Session - 2001  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 583**

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**Chairperson:** Senator Jim Jensen  
**Committee:** Health and Human Services  
**Date of Hearing:** February 7, 2001

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

Legislative Bill 583 would change the current system for appointing members of professional examining boards within the Department of Health and Human Services and provide for the Governor to appoint the members of these boards.

Under current law, the State Board of Health appoints a professional board for each of the 16 professions under the Uniform Licensing Law . The State Board of Health also appoints members of 7 other boards which are not under the Uniform Licensing Law, including the Board of Nursing, the Board of Cosmetology Examiners, the Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, the Board of Registration for Environmental Health Specialists, the Board of Hearing Aid Dispensers and Fitters, the Board of Examiners in Nursing Home Administration, and the Board of Occupational Therapy Practice.

Legislative Bill 583 would change the appointment process, so that new members of these boards would be appointed by the Governor.

Under current law, the state association of each profession may submit a list of five persons each year to be a member of the examining board for that profession. The State Board of Health must consider persons on the list, but is not required to select one of them. Legislative Bill 583 retains this procedure and provides that the list may be given to the Governor.

Legislative Bill 583 also would amend the procedure for removing members of examining boards, by providing that the Governor would have the authority to remove members, rather than the State Board of Health.

**Principal Introducer:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Senator Dennis M. Byars**