

## **Utah State Legislature**Business and Labor Interim Committee

Utah State Senate Utah House of Representatives

November 8, 2022 Speaker Brad R. Wilson, Chair President J. Stuart Adams, Vice Chair Legislative Management Committee 350 North State, Suite 350 Salt Lake City, UT 84114

RE: Prioritization of Licensing Reviews

Speaker Wilson and President Adams,

During the 2022 General Session, the Legislature dissolved the Occupational and Professional Licensure Review Committee and established a new Office of Professional Licensure Review (OPLR) in the Department of Commerce. Beginning in 2023, OPLR will conduct a review of each regulated occupation at least once every 10 years. As part of the review process, OPLR is required to prepare and submit to the Business and Labor Interim Committee a list of each periodic review that OPLR proposes to conduct during the upcoming year, including the scope of each review. The Business and Labor Interim Committee is required to approve the list, with or without modification, and then submit a copy of the approved list to the Legislative Management Committee (LMC) for approval, with or without modification (see Utah Code § 13-1b-203, Duties, and § 13-1b-303, Legislative prioritization of reviews).

The Business and Labor Interim Committee reports that OPLR provided a list of each periodic review that OPLR proposes to conduct in 2023 and the committee approved the list without modification. OPLR's proposed list is attached for review and approval by LMC.

In the attachment, OPLR explains their prioritization of reviews, rational, and the scope of the intended reviews. OPLR proposes conducting reviews for occupations focused on regulating mental and behavior health occupations because mental health needs are surging, Utah has a shortage of mental health professionals, and some mental health occupations receive higher rates of substantiated complaints.

We look forward to OPLR's occupational reviews and reporting.

Sincerely,

Sen. Curtis S. Bramble

Chair, Business and Labor Interim Committee

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Attachment