

Coalition Addressing Proposed Legislation That Aims to Impact Licensure and Certification



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The International Association of Healthcare Central Service Materiel Management is a member of the Professional Certification Coalition (PCC). This coalition consists of 115 nonprofit organizations that are either membership organizations or certifying bodies. The PCC was formed to combat legislative efforts to undermine the recognition of certifications developed or offered by private certification organizations.

Over the past three years, there has been a concerted effort on the state level across the country to either eliminate licenses for certain professions, create state-run certification programs, or disallow the use of the terms “registered” or “certified.”

State Legislation

Legislation introduced in 2019 in Pennsylvania would prohibit the use of the term “certified,” which means that if you hold any credentials with the term “certified” in it, you would not be allowed to use it. The legislation has not moved, but the PCC is monitoring it.

The PCC has a lobbyist in Missouri to

try to amend the statute that prohibits the use of the term “registered.” This means that our CRCST credential cannot be used in Missouri; however, we have been told that the law is not being enforced. The Missouri legislature ends in May, so we are hoping the PCC is successful with this effort.

There is legislation in Michigan that defines “registration” as registering with the state, and it requires government-run licensing and certification. The bill has also not moved but is being closely monitored by the PCC.

Federal Legislation

The PCC introduced HR5339, the freedom to invest in tomorrow’s workforce act. The bill would allow tax-favored 529 funds to pay for certification exam fees and other qualified expenses. This means those who have set up a 529 plan may use the money from the 529 plan to pay for certification exam fees. The PCC is working to have a Senate companion bill introduced. 

For more information about the Professional Certification Coalition, visit <https://www.profcertcoalition.org/>.



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