AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 3; Title 23; Title 49; Title 56 and Title 63, relative to procedures affecting professional licenses.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-6-309, is amended by designating the language in subsection (b) as subdivision (b)(1) and adding the following as a new subdivision (b)(2):

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (b)(1), the commission may elect not to suspend, deny, or revoke the registration of a lobbyist if the commission determines that the default or delinquency is the result of a medical hardship that prevented the person from working in the person's licensed field and the medical hardship significantly contributed to the default or delinquency.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 3-6-309, is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision (c)(2)(C)(v):

(v) Whether the debtor's default or delinquency is the result of a medical hardship that prevented the debtor from working in the person's licensed field and the medical hardship significantly contributed to the default or delinquency.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 23-3-111, is amended by adding the following at the end of the section:

The supreme court is further encouraged to establish guidelines that would not suspend, deny, or revoke the license of an attorney if the default or delinquency is the result of a medical hardship that prevented the person from working in the person's licensed field and the medical hardship significantly contributed to the default or delinquency.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-5-108, is amended by designating the language in subdivision (d)(2) as subdivision (d)(2)(A) and adding the following as a new subdivision (d)(2)(B):

(B) Notwithstanding subdivision (d)(2)(A), the state board of education may elect not to suspend, deny, or revoke the license or certificate of a teacher if the default or delinquency is the result of a medical hardship that prevented the person from working in the person's licensed field and the medical hardship significantly contributed to the default or delinquency.

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-7-2125, is amended by designating the language in subsection (b) as subdivision (b)(1) and adding the following as a new subdivision (b)(2):

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (b)(1), the secretary of state may elect not to suspend, deny, or revoke the registration of an athlete agent or applicant if the default or delinquency is the result of a medical hardship that prevented the person from working in the person's licensed field and the medical hardship significantly contributed to the default or delinquency.
SECTION 6. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-7-2125, is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision (c)(2)(C)(v):

(v) Whether the debtor's default or delinquency is the result of a medical hardship that prevented the debtor from working in the debtor's licensed field and the medical hardship significantly contributed to the default or delinquency.

SECTION 7. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 56-1-109, is amended by designating the language in subsection (b) as subdivision (b)(1) and adding the following as a new subdivision (b)(2):

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (b)(1), a licensing authority may elect not to suspend, deny, or revoke the license of a person if the default or delinquency is the result of a medical hardship that prevented the person from working in the person's licensed field and the medical hardship significantly contributed to the default or delinquency.

SECTION 8. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 56-1-109, is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision (c)(2)(C)(v):

(v) Whether the debtor's default or delinquency is the result of a medical hardship that prevented the debtor from working in the debtor's licensed field and the medical hardship significantly contributed to the default or delinquency.

SECTION 9. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 56-1-312, is amended by designating the language in subsection (a) as subdivision (a)(1) and adding the following as a new subdivision (a)(2):

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (a)(1), a licensing authority may elect not to suspend, deny, or revoke the license of a person if the default or delinquency is the result of a medical hardship that prevented the person from working in the person's licensed field and the medical hardship significantly contributed to the default or delinquency.

SECTION 10. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 56-1-312, is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision (b)(2)(C)(iv):

(iv) Whether the debtor's default or delinquency is the result of a medical hardship that prevented the debtor from working in the debtor's licensed field and the medical hardship significantly contributed to the default or delinquency.

SECTION 11. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-1-141, is amended by designating the language in subsection (a) as subdivision (a)(1) and adding the following as a new subdivision (a)(2):

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (a)(1), a licensing authority may elect not to suspend, deny, or revoke the license of a person if the default or delinquency is the result of a medical hardship that prevented the person from working in the person's licensed field and the medical hardship significantly contributed to the default or delinquency.

SECTION 12. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 63-1-141, is amended by adding the following as a new subdivision (b)(2)(C)(iv):

(iv) Whether the debtor's default or delinquency is the result of a medical hardship that prevented the debtor from working in the debtor's licensed field and the medical hardship significantly contributed to the default or delinquency.

SECTION 13. For purposes of promulgating rules, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect January 1, 2019, the public welfare requiring it.
PASSED: April 2, 2018

RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 18th day of April 2018

BILL HASLAM, GOVERNOR