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## Legislative Impact Statement

To: Chairperson Joseph J. Solomon, Jr.  
House Corporations Committee

From: Bob Cooper, Executive Secretary

Re: 22 House 6643 AN ACT RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS --  
GENETIC COUNSELORS LICENSING ACT

Tuesday, February 01, 2022

The Governor's Commission on Disabilities' Legislation Committee has developed a Legislative Impact Statement on the bill listed below. The Commission would be pleased to present testimony to the committee. Please contact me (462-0102) if testimony is desired or for additional information.

Introduced By Representative McEntee

This act would provide a statutory framework for the licensing and regulation of genetic counselors. This act would take effect upon passage.

### Legislation Committee finds this bill Beneficial

In many states a license is required to practice as a Certified Genetic Counselor (CGC®). The goal of licensure is to ensure that the licensees have the minimal degree of competency necessary to ensure that public health, safety and welfare are protected.

Requirements for genetic counseling licenses vary slightly from state to state, but all states currently issuing licenses require applicants to have a current ABGC certification and have graduated from an ACGC accredited master's degree program. Additionally, most states require the licensee to earn a specified number of continuing education credits prior to renewal and maintain an active CGC credential.

The American Board of Genetic Counseling received NCCA accreditation of its Certified Genetic Counselor certification program. NCCA is the accrediting body of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence. State licensure boards can be assured that the process by which the CGC credential is developed and administered meets the highest quality standards.

Source: <https://www.abgc.net/research-resources/state-licensure/>

As of May 2019, 29 states have passed genetic counselor licensure bills that require genetic counselors to meet a certain set of standards to practice. These states are Alabama, Arkansas, California, Connecticut, Delaware, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, Virginia, and Washington. Almost every other state in the United States is in the process of obtaining genetic counseling licensure.

Source: "States Issuing Licenses for Genetic Counselors". National Society of Genetic Counselors. Retrieved 3 October 2018

cc: Representative McEntee  
Rico Vota, Governor's Office on Legislative Affairs