



Maryland Department of Agriculture

Office of the Secretary

Larry Hogan, Governor
Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor
Joseph Bartenfelder, Secretary
Julianne A. Oberg, Deputy Secretary

The Wayne A. Cawley, Jr. Building
50 Harry S. Truman Parkway
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
www.mda.maryland.gov

Agriculture | Maryland's Leading Industry

410.841.5880 Baltimore/Washington
410.841.5914 Fax
800.492.5590 Toll Free

October 3, 2018

The Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr.
President
Maryland Senate
State House, H-107
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

The Honorable Michael E. Busch
Speaker
Maryland House of Delegates
State House, H-101
100 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

RE: Report Required by Chapter 796 of the Acts of 2018 (HB 1597) Occupational Licenses or Certificates – Application Determinations – Use of Criminal History – Reports MSAR # 11793

Dear President Miller and Speaker Busch,

Chapter 796 of the Acts of 2018 (HB 1597) requires the Department of Agriculture and to submit a report detailing the following information:

- The total number of applications for an occupational license or certificate received in the preceding five years;
- The total number of those applicants that had criminal records and the amount of time that had passed since the applicant's criminal conviction; and
- The number of applicants that had been denied based on the applicant's criminal record, and under which provision of law had the applicant's denial been based.

The Department of Agriculture presents the following responsive information. Please note, licensing divisions within the department have collected limited data on the criminal history information requested in the legislation.

I hope you find the information contained in this report useful. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Matthew Teffeau, the Department's Policy Director, at Matthew.teffeau@maryland.gov or 410-841-5886

Sincerely,

Joseph Bartenfelder
Secretary

Total number of applications for an occupational license or certificate

The Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners has issued 926 veterinary licenses between 2014 and 2018. We are unable to determine how many total applications were received in that time period. (*Note: Veterinary licenses are professional licenses , not occupational licenses.) The Maryland State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners' licensing process is a completely paper process at this time so information is only entered into the database once an applicant is approved. The board is working on a new electronic database that will gather all information going forward.

Total number of applicants with a criminal record

The Board is unable to determine the total number of applicants in the last five years who had a criminal history; however, we do know of three in the last two years that had a criminal history and one with an arrest record. Although the board does ask about criminal history, it is not recorded separately in the database. The new electronic database the board is implementing will allow them to run such reports going forward.

Total number of application denials based on criminal records

When an applicant has a criminal or arrest record, the board consults with the Maryland Healthcare Professional Program. The board responds based on the results of that evaluation. To date, no applicants have been denied based on criminal records.