

**House Study Bill 711 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON  
STATE GOVERNMENT BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON BLOOMINGDALE)

**A BILL FOR**

- 1 An Act relating to licensure as a respiratory care practitioner.
- 2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 152B.14, Code 2026, is amended to read as  
2 follows:

3 **152B.14 Licensure through examination.**

4 1. The Prior to January 1, 2027, the board shall issue a  
5 license to practice respiratory care to an applicant who has  
6 passed an examination administered by the state or a national  
7 agency approved by the board.

8 2. Beginning January 1, 2027, the board shall issue a license  
9 to practice respiratory care to an applicant who has passed  
10 an examination administered by the state or a national agency  
11 approved by the board, and who meets the requirements of section  
12 152B.15.

13 Sec. 2. NEW SECTION. **152B.15 Registered respiratory care**  
14 **therapist credential required — exceptions.**

15 1. Beginning January 1, 2027, an applicant for licensure  
16 as a respiratory care practitioner must submit to the board  
17 evidence of achievement of the registered respiratory therapist  
18 credential awarded by the national board for respiratory care, or  
19 its successor organization, in addition to any other requirements  
20 adopted by the board by rule.

21 2. Beginning January 1, 2027, an applicant for licensure  
22 as a respiratory care practitioner who is currently licensed  
23 as a respiratory care practitioner in another state must  
24 submit to the board evidence of achievement of the registered  
25 respiratory therapist credential awarded by the national board  
26 for respiratory care, or its successor organization, or the  
27 completion of an examination approved by the board by rule, in  
28 addition to any other requirements adopted by the board by rule.

29 3. A respiratory care practitioner licensed in this state  
30 prior to January 1, 2027, is not required to hold a registered  
31 respiratory therapist credential awarded by the national board  
32 for respiratory care, or its successor organization, to renew a  
33 license, unless the license lapsed more than three months prior  
34 to renewal.

35 4. The board shall cooperate with educational institutions

1 and professional organizations to develop pathways for persons  
2 who currently hold a certified respiratory therapist credential  
3 awarded by the national board for respiratory care to obtain  
4 a registered respiratory therapist credential awarded by the  
5 national board for respiratory care, and to create continuing  
6 education opportunities to support the professional development  
7 of respiratory care practitioners.

8 EXPLANATION

9 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with  
10 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

11 This bill relates to the licensure of respiratory care  
12 therapists. Beginning January 1, 2027, the bill requires an  
13 applicant for licensure as a respiratory care practitioner to  
14 obtain the registered respiratory therapist credential awarded  
15 by the national board for respiratory care, or its successor  
16 organization, in addition to other requirements imposed by the  
17 board of respiratory care and polysomnography (board) by rule.  
18 The bill requires an applicant for licensure that is currently  
19 licensed as a respiratory care therapist in another state to  
20 either obtain a registered respiratory therapist credential or  
21 complete an examination approved by the board by rule. The bill  
22 exempts a person licensed as a respiratory care therapist prior  
23 to January 1, 2027, from the requirement to obtain a registered  
24 respiratory therapist credential, unless the license lapsed more  
25 than three months prior to renewal.

26 The bill requires the board to cooperate with educational  
27 institutions and business organizations to develop pathways  
28 for persons who currently hold a certified respiratory  
29 therapist credential to obtain a registered respiratory therapist  
30 credential and to create continuing education opportunities  
31 to support the professional development of respiratory care  
32 practitioners.