

Senate Study Bill 3169 - Introduced

SENATE FILE _____
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE ON
WORKFORCE BILL BY CHAIRPERSON
DICKEY)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to qualifications for state employment and
2 professional licensure.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

unofficial

1 Section 1. Section 7E.3, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
2 following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 6. *Verification of United States citizenship*
4 *and immigration status.* Use the e-verify system of the United
5 States citizenship and immigration services to confirm the
6 employment eligibility of newly hired employees.

7 Sec. 2. Section 10A.101, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
8 following new subsection:

9 NEW SUBSECTION. 4. "SAVE program" means the systematic alien
10 verification for entitlements system of the United States
11 department of homeland security and the United States citizenship
12 and immigration services.

13 Sec. 3. NEW SECTION. **10A.113 SAVE program clearinghouse.**

14 There is created within the department a SAVE program
15 clearinghouse, which shall serve as the central entity to process
16 requests to verify, using the SAVE program, the United States
17 citizenship and immigration status of an individual who has
18 applied for a professional license in this state. The department
19 shall adopt rules pursuant to chapter 17A to implement this
20 section.

21 Sec. 4. Section 10A.506, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
22 following new subsection:

23 NEW SUBSECTION. 13. a. The licensing and regulation
24 examining boards included in the department pursuant to
25 subsection 1 shall use the SAVE program clearinghouse created
26 within the department pursuant to section 10A.113 to verify the
27 United States citizenship and immigration status of an individual
28 who has applied for a professional license from the board.

29 b. A denial of an application for a professional license due
30 to the results of the SAVE program clearinghouse check shall
31 be appealed to the director and the director's decision shall
32 constitute final agency action.

33 Sec. 5. NEW SECTION. **262.9E Verification of citizenship and**
34 **immigration status.**

35 The state board of regents and each institution of higher

1 education governed by the board shall use the e-verify system of
2 the United States citizenship and immigration services to confirm
3 the employment eligibility of newly hired employees.

4 Sec. 6. Section 272C.1, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
5 following new subsection:

6 NEW SUBSECTION. 11. "SAVE program clearinghouse" means the
7 SAVE program clearinghouse created within the department of
8 inspections, appeals, and licensing pursuant to section 10A.113.

9 Sec. 7. Section 272C.4, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
10 following new subsection:

11 NEW SUBSECTION. 11. Use the SAVE program clearinghouse to
12 confirm the United States citizenship and immigration status of
13 an individual who has applied for a professional license from the
14 board.

15 Sec. 8. Section 272C.10, Code 2026, is amended by adding the
16 following new subsection:

17 NEW SUBSECTION. 9. For a license deemed a professional
18 license by the licensing board, unlawful presence in the United
19 States, as determined by using the SAVE program clearinghouse.

20 Sec. 9. NEW SECTION. **272C.15A Disqualifications for**
21 **unlawful presence.**

22 A licensing board established after January 1, 1978, and
23 pursuant to the provisions of this chapter, shall not issue or
24 renew a professional license to an individual who the licensing
25 board is unable to verify is lawfully present in the United
26 States, as determined by using the SAVE program clearinghouse.

27 **EXPLANATION**

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

30 This bill relates to qualifications for state employment
31 and professional licensure. The bill requires each head of a
32 department or independent agency of this state, as well as the
33 state board of regents and each regents institution, to use the
34 e-verify system of the U.S. citizenship and immigration services
35 to confirm the employment eligibility of newly hired employees.

1 The bill creates within the department of inspections,
2 appeals, and licensing a clearinghouse to process requests to
3 verify, using the systematic alien verification for entitlements
4 system of the U.S. department of homeland security and the U.S.
5 citizenship and immigration services (SAVE program), the United
6 States citizenship and immigration status of individuals who have
7 applied for a professional license in this state. The bill
8 requires professional licensing boards to use the SAVE program
9 clearinghouse to verify the U.S. citizenship and immigration
10 status of an individual who has applied for a professional
11 license from the board and to decline to issue or renew a license
12 if the licensing board is unable to verify that the person is
13 lawfully present in the United States. The bill requires the
14 denial of an application for a professional license due to the
15 results of the SAVE program clearinghouse check to be appealed
16 to the director of the department of inspections, appeals, and
17 licensing, and the decision of the director shall constitute a
18 final agency action.

19 The bill also requires a licensing board established after
20 January 1, 1978, to adopt rules for the revocation or suspension
21 of a license that the licensing board deems to be a professional
22 license if the licensee is unlawfully present in the United
23 States, as determined by using the SAVE program clearinghouse.