

Client name Jessica M. Price
Form Montana Licensing Reform Task Force
Matter Jessica M. Price - Rules
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Montana Licensing Reform Task Force

This Task Force was created pursuant to Executive Order 1-2026 on January 29, 2026.

Purpose of the Licensing Reform Task Force

The Task Force shall provide the Governor with recommendations and strategies for the State of Montana to reform the professional occupational licensing system for the purposes of:

- identifying and removing burdens and barriers faced by licensees that are not necessary to protect the public; and
- improving access to and availability of professional services for citizens across Montana, including rural communities.

In developing recommendations and strategies, the Task Force shall seek input from Montana citizens, legislators, Montana associations whose members are licensed occupational professionals, professional licensing boards, relevant state agencies, advisory groups and researchers focused on occupational licensing, and other appropriate stakeholders as determined by the Task Force.

Public Record

Please note that all information received through this form is public record.

Which committee would you like to receive your comment?

Full Task Force
Health Care Subcommittee
Barriers Subcommittee

We want to hear from you!

We would like to receive any comments you would like the Task Force, or one of its subcommittees, to review. In addition, we are specifically looking for feedback for:

1. Specific topics a committee or the task force should consider, and
2. Specific people or organizations you think the task force should hear from.

Do you have a general comment or a specific person or topic for the Task Force to hear from?

Specific person or topic

What are your comments?

Dear Sir/Ma'am,

I am speaking as one of the numerous professionals in the state of Montana having issues with the testing process and the nearly impossible requirements. I am a professional counselor candidate who has completed all other requirements; Mater's level education, 3,000 hours of supervised work, and have tested for the NCE three times, at a cost of \$265 per test. I missed the required 90 points on my first test by 6 points. I went back to my studies for four months and decided to test again in April of this year. Whereas I was required to obtain at least 90 points the first attempt, which I did receive this second attempt; the test now required 91 points. I was considered a fail due to 1 point, when I would have been considered a pass months before. I waited the required 30 days and attempted again, fully and hopefully anticipating a pass this time as I was one point behind. This version of the test, however, now required a 93 and I maintained a 90.

This process is beyond discouraging and the test itself should be reevaluated for efficiency and integrity. I am a USAF veteran and I do believe there are inconsistencies that need to be addressed and corrected.

In my job, I perform well, am competent, and very successful. This test is the last step for my full licensing. I have already paid three times the amount and have proven I've improved in the areas each time I've tested.

I am a faithful Christian woman, I believe in standing up for what is right, and I do believe people working hard in the state of Montana, fully supporting the mental health of our communities, mind you, deserve a thorough review of these licensure tests. I myself would appreciate a review of my test scores to see that I am competent and fully capable and deserving of my full licensure.

I would be more than happy to speak to the Governor himself on my unfortunate experience if it will provide the support of refining this system. It's failing our blue collar and hardworking members of our community. My family included. My husband has served in the USAF as well, has served our community as a Police Officer/ Detective for 18 years, we are raising 5 children and are simply grateful for the opportunity to work hard and serve our community well. I would appreciate if that would be considered and my efforts thus far would be recognized as meeting requirements so I can move forward in my career and passion to help others.

I thank you for your time and attention to these matters.

*Very Respectfully,
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