



TRIBAL HEALTH PROGRAMS: HEALTHCARE PRACTITIONERS

Legislation enacted during the 2011-2012 Session

Effective January 1, 2013 AB 1896 (Chesbro), Chapter 119, Statutes of 2012, is an act to codify federal requirements by specifying that a health care practitioner in any other state and employed by a tribal health program is exempt from any state licensing requirement with respect to acts authorized under the person's license where the tribe health program performs specific services.

Under existing federal law, licensed health professionals employed by a tribal health program are required to be exempt, if licensed in any state, from the licensing requirements of the state in which the tribal health program performs specified services. A tribal health program is defined as an Indian tribe or tribal organization that operates any health program, service, function, activity, or facility funded, in whole or part, by the Indian Health Service.

The people of California do enact as follows:

Section 1. The heading of Article 10 (commencing with Section 710) of Chapter 1 of Division 2 of the Business and Profession Code is amended to read:

Article 10. Federal Personnel and Tribal Health Programs

SEC. 2. Section 719 is added to the Business and Professions Code, to read:

719. (a) A person who is licensed as a health care practitioner in any other state and is employed by a tribal health program, as defined in Section 1603 of Title 25 of the United States Code, shall be exempt from any licensing requirement described in this division with respect to acts authorized under the person's license where the tribal health program performs the service described in the contract or compact of the tribal health program under the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. Sec 450 et seq.).

(b) For purposes of this section, "health care practitioner" means any person who engages in acts that are subject to licensure or regulation under the law of any other state.