A BILL

To prohibit state agencies from charging a fee to professional license holders in relation to a business relocation during the COVID-19 declared state of emergency and to declare an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

Section 1. (A) As used in this section, "state of emergency" means the state of emergency declared under Executive Order 2020-01D, issued on March 9, 2020, to protect the well-being of Ohio citizens from the dangerous effects of COVID-19.

(B) Beginning on the effective date of this section and ending six months after the date the state of emergency ends, a state agency that issues a professional license, including all licenses issued under Title XLVII and licenses issued by the Department of Commerce, shall waive any fee associated with relocation if the license holder verifies that the relocation has been necessitated by the economic downturn attributable to COVID-19 and the state of emergency.

Section 2. This act is an emergency measure necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety. The reason for such necessity is to ease financial
strain on businesses due to commercial decline caused by the restrictions and other precautions imposed as part of the state of emergency regarding COVID-19. Therefore, this act shall go into immediate effect.