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Neb to Allow Professional Licenses for Certain Illegal Immigrants

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) - Nebraska will allow certain immigrants brought illegally to the U.S. as children to apply for professional licenses to work in health care, education and dozens of other professions in the state.

Lawmakers voted Wednesday to override Republican Gov. Pete Ricketts' veto of the plan on the final day of their legislative session.

The new law applies to immigrants who were granted temporary legal status and the right to work under a 2012 Obama administration policy. It lets them qualify for at least 170 different professional and commercial licenses.

Supporters say the plan will fill jobs in a state with one of the nation's lowest unemployment rates where companies are struggling to find qualified workers.

Ricketts says the change is unfair to legal immigrants who follow the citizenship process.

Associated Press