

2017 -- H 5673

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2017

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A N A C T

RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE
AND DISCIPLINE

Introduced By: Representatives Morgan, Chippendale, Giarrusso, Price, and Nardolillo

Date Introduced: March 01, 2017

Referred To: House Health, Education & Welfare

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 5-37-2 of the General Laws in Chapter 5-37 entitled "Board of
2 Medical Licensure and Discipline" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 **5-37-2. License to practice -- Qualifications of applicants -- Fee -- Reexamination.**

4 (a) (1) Authority to practice allopathic or osteopathic medicine under this chapter shall be
5 by a license issued by the director of the department of health to any reputable physician who
6 intends to practice allopathic or osteopathic medicine in this state, and who meets the
7 requirements for licensure established in this chapter and regulations established by the board or
8 by the director. Applicants for licensure shall present satisfactory evidence of graduation from a
9 medical school or school of osteopathic medicine approved by the board and in good standing,
10 shall meet post graduate training requirements and any other requirements that the board or
11 director establishes by regulation, and shall pass in a satisfactory manner any examination that the
12 board may require. Any physician applying for licensure shall pay a non refundable application
13 fee and when applicable a reexamination fee for each reexamination, in a total amount as set forth
14 in § 23-1-54.

15 (2) A license to practice allopathic medicine shall be issued to persons who have
16 graduated from a school of medicine, possess a degree of doctor of medicine (or meet the
17 requirements of subsection (b) of this section), and meet the requirements for licensure.

18 (3) A license to practice osteopathic medicine shall be issued to persons who have

1 graduated from a school of osteopathic medicine and possess a degree of doctor of osteopathy
2 and otherwise meet the requirements for licensure. A license to practice osteopathic medicine
3 shall confer upon the holder the right to practice osteopathic medicine in all its branches as taught
4 and practiced in accredited colleges of osteopathic medicine. The holder of that license shall be
5 subject to the same duties and liabilities and entitled to the same rights and privileges, which may
6 be imposed by law or governmental regulation, upon physicians of any school of medicine.

7 (b) (1) Qualification of Certain Other Applicants for License. Notwithstanding any other
8 provisions of this section an individual, who at the time of his or her enrollment in a medical
9 school outside the United States is a citizen of the United States, shall be eligible to apply for a
10 certificate pursuant to this section if he or she has satisfied the following requirements:

11 (i) Has studied medicine in a medical school located outside the United States, which is
12 recognized by the World Health Organization;

13 (ii) Has completed all of the formal requirements of the foreign medical school except
14 internship and/or social service;

15 (iii) Has attained a score satisfactory to a medical school approved by the liaison
16 committee on medical education on a qualifying examination acceptable to the state board for
17 medicine, and has satisfactorily completed one academic year of supervised clinical training
18 under the direction of any United States medical school;

19 (iv) Has completed the post-graduate hospital training required by the board of applicants
20 for licensure; and

21 (v) Has passed the examination required by the board of all applicants for licensure.

22 (2) Satisfaction of the requirements of subdivision (1) of this subsection is in lieu of the
23 completion of any foreign internship and/or social service requirements, and no such
24 requirements are a condition of licensure as a physician in this state.

25 (3) Satisfaction of the requirements of subdivision (1) of this subsection is in lieu of
26 certification by the educational council for foreign medical graduates, and this certification is not
27 a condition of licensure as a physician in this state.

28 (4) No hospital licensed by this state, or operated by the state or a political subdivision of
29 the state, or which receives state financial assistance, directly or indirectly, requires an individual,
30 who at the time of his or her enrollment in a medical school outside the United States is a citizen
31 of the United States, to satisfy any requirements other than those contained in paragraphs (1)(i),
32 (ii), and (iii) of this subsection prior to commencing an internship or residency.

33 (5) A document granted by a medical school located outside the United States which is
34 recognized by the World Health Organization issued after the completion of all the formal

1 requirements of that foreign medical school except internship and/or social service, upon
2 certification by the medical school in which this training was received of satisfactory completion
3 by the person to whom this document was issued of the requirements in paragraph (1)(iii) of this
4 subsection, shall be deemed the equivalent of a degree of doctor of medicine for purposes of
5 licensure and practice as a physician in this state.

6 (6) No funds appropriated by the general assembly to any school or college of medicine
7 shall be disbursed until the director of the department of health has certified that this school or
8 college has established, and will maintain until December 31, 1989, a clinical training program as
9 contemplated by paragraph (1)(iii) of this subsection, to accommodate residents of this state
10 deemed qualified by that school or college of medicine consistent with that school's or college's
11 educational resources.

12 (7) An applicant may be considered for licensure by reciprocity if the applicant:

13 (i) Became licensed or certified as a physician in another jurisdiction under requirements
14 that the board determines are substantially equivalent to the licensing requirements of this
15 chapter;

16 (ii) Is in good standing under the laws of the other jurisdiction;

17 (iii) Submits an application to the board on a form that the board requires; and

18 (iv) Pays to the board an application fee set by the board.

19 No form of specialty medical board certification, specialty examination or maintenance
20 of certification program shall be included as a licensure requirement to practice medicine in
21 Rhode Island.

22 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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RELATING TO BUSINESSES AND PROFESSIONS -- BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE
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- 1 This act would establish a process to license physicians by reciprocity to practice
- 2 medicine in this state.
- 3 This act would take effect upon passage.

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