

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate House

Comm: RCS 04/06/2010

The Committee on Health and Human Services Appropriations (Peaden) recommended the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Between lines 527 and 528 insert:

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Section 6. Section 458.315, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

458.315 Temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need.-

- (1) Any physician who:
- (a) Is licensed to practice in any jurisdiction in the United States and other state, whose license is currently valid; or,



(b) Has served as a physician in the United States Armed Forces for at least 10 years and received an honorable discharge from the military;

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> and who pays an application fee of \$300 may be issued a temporary certificate for to practice in areas of communities of Florida where there is a critical need for physicians.

(b) Will be employed by or practice in a county health

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(2) A certificate may be issued to a physician who:

2.1 22 (a) Practices in an area of critical need;

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department, correctional facility, Department of Veterans' Affairs clinic, community health center funded by s. 329, s. 330, or s. 340 of the United States Public Health Services Act, or other agency or institution that is approved by the State

27 28 Surgeon General and provides health care to meet the needs of underserved populations in this state; or

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(c) Will practice for a limited time to address critical physician-specialty, demographic, or geographic needs for this state's physician workforce as determined by the State Surgeon General entity that provides health care to indigents and that is approved by the State Health Officer.

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(3) The Board of Medicine may issue this temporary certificate with the following restrictions:

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(a) (1) The State Surgeon General board shall determine the areas of critical need, and the physician so certified may practice in any of those areas for a time to be determined by the board. Such areas shall include, but are not be limited to, health professional shortage areas designated by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.

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1. (a) A recipient of a temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need may use the certificate license to work for any approved entity employer in any area of critical need or as authorized by the State Surgeon General approved by the board.

2.(b) The recipient of a temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need shall, within 30 days after accepting employment, notify the board of all approved institutions in which the licensee practices and of all approved institutions where practice privileges have been denied.

(b) $\frac{(2)}{(2)}$ The board may administer an abbreviated oral examination to determine the physician's competency, but a no written regular examination is not required necessary. Within 60 days after receipt of an application for a temporary certificate, the board shall review the application and issue the temporary certificate, or notify the applicant of denial, or notify the applicant that the board recommends additional assessment, training, education, or other requirements as a condition of certification. If the applicant has not actively practiced during the prior 3 years and the board determines that the applicant may lack clinical competency, possess diminished or inadequate skills, lack necessary medical knowledge, or exhibit patterns of deficits in clinical decisionmaking, the board may:

- 1. Deny the application;
- 2. Issue a temporary certificate having reasonable restrictions that may include, but are not limited to, a requirement for the applicant to practice under the supervision of a physician approved by the board; or

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3. Issue a temporary certificate upon receipt of documentation confirming that the applicant has met any reasonable conditions of the board which may include, but are not limited to, completing continuing education or undergoing an assessment of skills and training.

(c)(3) Any certificate issued under this section is shall be valid only so long as the State Surgeon General determines that the reason $\frac{1}{2}$ for which it was $\frac{1}{2}$ issued remains a $\frac{1}{2}$ area of critical need to the state. The Board of Medicine shall review each temporary certificateholder not the service within said area not less than annually to ascertain that the minimum requirements of the Medical Practice Act and its adopted the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder are being complied with. If it is determined that such minimum requirements are not being met, the board shall forthwith revoke such certificate or shall impose restrictions or conditions, or both, as a condition of continued practice under the certificate.

(d) (4) The board may shall not issue a temporary certificate for practice in an area of critical need to any physician who is under investigation in any jurisdiction in the United States another state for an act that which would constitute a violation of this chapter until such time as the investigation is complete, at which time the provisions of s. 458.331 shall apply.

(4) (4) (5) The application fee and all licensure fees, including neurological injury compensation assessments, shall be waived for those persons obtaining a temporary certificate to practice in areas of critical need for the purpose of providing volunteer, uncompensated care for low-income residents

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Floridians. The applicant must submit an affidavit from the employing agency or institution stating that the physician will not receive any compensation for any service involving the practice of medicine.

Section 7. Section 459.0076, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

459.0076 Temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need.-

- (1) Any physician who:
- (a) Is licensed to practice in any jurisdiction in the United States and whose license is currently valid; or
- (b) Has served as a physician in the United States Armed Forces for at least 10 years and received an honorable discharge from the military;

115 and who pays an application fee of \$300 may be issued a 116 temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need.

- (2) A certificate may be issued to a physician who:
- (a) Will practice in an area of critical need;
- (b) Will be employed by or practice in a county health department, correctional facility, Department of Veterans' Affairs clinic, community health center funded by s. 329, s. 330, or s. 340 of the United States Public Health Services Act, or other agency or institution that is approved by the State Surgeon General and provides health care to meet the needs of underserved populations in this state; or
- (c) Will practice for a limited time to address critical physician-specialty, demographic, or geographic needs for this state's physician workforce as determined by the State Surgeon



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- (3) The Board of Osteopathic Medicine may issue this temporary certificate with the following restrictions:
- (a) The State Surgeon General shall determine the areas of critical need. Such areas include, but are not limited to, health professional shortage areas designated by the United States Department of Health and Human Services.
- 1. A recipient of a temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need may use the certificate to work for any approved entity in any area of critical need or as authorized by the State Surgeon General.
- 2. The recipient of a temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need shall, within 30 days after accepting employment, notify the board of all approved institutions in which the licensee practices and of all approved institutions where practice privileges have been denied.
- (b) The board may administer an abbreviated oral examination to determine the physician's competency, but a written regular examination is not required. Within 60 days after receipt of an application for a temporary certificate, the board shall review the application and issue the temporary certificate, notify the applicant of denial, or notify the applicant that the board recommends additional assessment, training, education, or other requirements as a condition of certification. If the applicant has not actively practiced during the prior 3 years and the board determines that the applicant may lack clinical competency, possess diminished or inadequate skills, lack necessary medical knowledge, or exhibit patterns of deficits in clinical decisionmaking, the board may:

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- 1. Deny the application;
- 2. Issue a temporary certificate having reasonable restrictions that may include, but are not limited to, a requirement for the applicant to practice under the supervision of a physician approved by the board; or
- 3. Issue a temporary certificate upon receipt of documentation confirming that the applicant has met any reasonable conditions of the board which may include, but are not limited to, completing continuing education or undergoing an assessment of skills and training.
- (c) Any certificate issued under this section is valid only so long as the State Surgeon General determines that the reason for which it was issued remains a critical need to the state. The Board of Osteopathic Medicine shall review each temporary certificateholder not less than annually to ascertain that the minimum requirements of the Osteopathic Medical Practice Act and its adopted rules are being complied with. If it is determined that such minimum requirements are not being met, the board shall revoke such certificate or shall impose restrictions or conditions, or both, as a condition of continued practice under the certificate.
- (d) The board may not issue a temporary certificate for practice in an area of critical need to any physician who is under investigation in any jurisdiction in the United States for an act that would constitute a violation of this chapter until such time as the investigation is complete, at which time the provisions of s. 459.015 apply.
- (4) The application fee and all licensure fees, including neurological injury compensation assessments, shall be waived



for those persons obtaining a temporary certificate to practice in areas of critical need for the purpose of providing volunteer, uncompensated care for low-income residents. The applicant must submit an affidavit from the employing agency or institution stating that the physician will not receive any compensation for any service involving the practice of medicine.

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======= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ======= And the title is amended as follows:

Delete line 42

and insert:

s. 409.908, F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 458.315, F.S.; revising the standards for the Board of Medicine to issue a temporary certificate to a certain physicians to practice medicine in areas of critical need; authorizing the State Surgeon General to designate areas of critical need; creating s. 459.0076, F.S.; authorizing the Board of Osteopathic Medicine to issue temporary certificates to osteopathic physicians who meet certain requirements to practice osteopathic medicine in areas of critical need; providing restrictions for issuance of a temporary certificate; authorizing the State Surgeon General to designate areas of critical need; authorizing the Board of Osteopathic Medicine to waive the application fee and licensure fees for obtaining temporary certificates for certain purposes;