



903010

576-04436-19

Proposed Committee Substitute by the Committee on Appropriations
(Appropriations Subcommittee on Health and Human Services)

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to health care licensure requirements;
creating s. 456.0231, F.S.; defining the term
"physician"; authorizing the Department of Health to
exempt certain physicians from specified licensing
requirements when providing certain services to
veterans in this state; requiring such physicians
seeking the exemption to submit specified
documentation to the department; requiring the
department to notify such physicians within a
specified timeframe that the exemption has been
granted; specifying notice requirements; providing for
revocation, expiration, or renewal of the exemption
under certain conditions; authorizing the department
to adopt rules; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 456.0231, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

456.0231 Exemption from health care licensure requirements
for physicians who treat veterans.—

(1) As used in this section, the term "physician" means a
person who holds an active, unencumbered license to practice
allopathic medicine or osteopathic medicine issued by another
state; the District of Columbia; or a possession, commonwealth,
or territory of the United States.



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28 (2) The department may grant an exemption from the
29 licensure requirements of chapters 458 and 459 to a physician
30 who requests the exemption and who submits to the department all
31 of the following:

32 (a) Proof that he or she holds an active, unencumbered
33 license to practice allopathic medicine or osteopathic medicine
34 issued by another state; the District of Columbia; or a
35 possession, commonwealth, or territory of the United States.

36 (b) Proof of current employment as a physician with the
37 United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

38 (c) A notarized attestation, on a form developed by the
39 department, that under any exemption or renewal granted under
40 this section, he or she will provide medical services to
41 veterans exclusively, under one or more of the following
42 conditions:

43 1. Pursuant to his or her employment as a physician with
44 the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

45 2. In a hospital licensed under chapter 395 while remaining
46 employed as a physician by the United States Department of
47 Veterans Affairs.

48 (3) The department shall notify a physician seeking
49 exemption under this section within 15 business days after
50 receipt of the documentation required under subsection (2) that
51 the physician has been granted an exemption from the licensure
52 requirements of chapters 458 and 459. The notification must
53 include the conditions and requirements specified in subsection
54 (4).

55 (4) An exemption granted under this section:

56 (a) Is contingent upon the physician remaining employed by



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57 the United States Department of Veterans Affairs and is
58 otherwise invalid. A physician granted an exemption under this
59 section shall notify the department within 15 business days
60 after his or her employment with the United States Department of
61 Veterans Affairs is terminated. Upon receipt of such
62 notification, the department shall revoke the exemption.

63 (b) Expires 24 months after being granted, unless the
64 exemption is revoked or rendered invalid earlier under paragraph
65 (a) or is renewed. An exempted physician may apply for exemption
66 renewal by providing updated proof consistent with the proof
67 required under paragraphs (2) (a) and (2) (b) within a timeframe
68 determined by the department.

69 (5) The department may adopt rules to administer this
70 section.

71 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.