

1 H.68

2 Introduced by Representative Till of Jericho

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Health; professions and occupations; physicians; Board of Medical
6 Practice; continuing medical education

7 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to prohibit the
8 Board of Medical Practice from requiring physicians to earn continuing
9 medical education credits unrelated to their field of practice and to eliminate a
10 requirement that all physicians take courses in hospice, palliative care, and
11 pain management.

12

13 An act relating to continuing medical education requirements

14 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

15 Sec. 1. 26 V.S.A. § 1400(b) is amended to read:

16 (b) A licensee for renewal of an active license to practice medicine shall
17 have completed continuing medical education which shall meet minimum
18 criteria as established by rule, by the ~~board~~ Board, by August 31, 2012 and
19 which shall be in effect for the renewal of licenses to practice medicine
20 expiring after August 31, 2014. The ~~board~~ Board shall require a minimum of
21 10 hours of continuing medical education by rule. The training provided by

1 the continuing medical education shall be designed to ~~assure~~ ensure that the
2 licensee has updated his or her knowledge and skills in his or her own
3 specialties and also has kept abreast of advances in other fields for which
4 patient referrals may be appropriate; provided, however, that the Board shall
5 not require physicians to earn continuing medical education credits on subjects
6 unrelated to their field or fields of practice. ~~The board shall require evidence~~
7 ~~of current professional competence in recognizing the need for timely~~
8 ~~appropriate consultations and referrals to assure fully informed patient choice~~
9 ~~of treatment options, including treatments such as those offered by hospice,~~
10 ~~palliative care, and pain management services.~~

11 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

12 This act shall take effect on passage.