

1 TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES:

2 The Committee on Health Care to which was referred Senate Bill No. 142
3 entitled “An act relating to a pathway to licensure for internationally trained
4 physicians and medical graduates” respectfully reports that it has considered
5 the same and recommends that the House propose to the Senate that the bill be
6 amended by striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in lieu
7 thereof the following:

8 Sec. 1. PATHWAY TO LICENSURE FOR INTERNATIONALLY
9 TRAINED PHYSICIANS; REPORT

10 (a) On or before January 15, 2027, the Department of Health, in
11 collaboration with the Board of Medical Practice, shall provide to the House
12 Committees on Health Care and on Government Operations and Military
13 Affairs and the Senate Committees on Health and Welfare and on Government
14 Operations a report detailing a pathway to licensure for internationally trained
15 physicians. The report shall include the following information:

16 (1) a summary of other states’ processes for licensing internationally
17 trained physicians to practice medicine and, if available, data on the outcomes
18 of these processes and related programs;

19 (2) a description of the external resources needed to evaluate the
20 education, experience, and examinations of internationally trained physicians
21 and the availability of these resources;

1 **trained physician who meets the requirements for provisional licensure**
2 **established by the Board by rule pursuant to section 1396 of this chapter;**

3 **and**

4 **(2) a full license to an internationally trained physician who has**
5 **successfully completed the pathway to licensure established by the Board by**
6 **rule pursuant to section 1396 of this chapter.**

7 Sec. 3. 26 V.S.A. § 1396 is added to read:

8 **§ 1396. PATHWAY TO LICENSURE FOR INTERNATIONALLY**

9 **TRAINED PHYSICIANS; RULEMAKING**

10 **Pursuant to the authority of the Commissioner in subsection 1351(e) of**

11 **this chapter, the Board shall establish a pathway to licensure for**

12 **internationally trained physicians by rule adopt rules** in accordance with 3

13 **V.S.A. chapter 25 as needed to enable the licensure of internationally**

14 **trained physicians as set forth in subsection 1391(g) of this chapter. The**

15 **rules adopted by the Board shall reflect the least restrictive form of**

16 **regulation necessary to protect the public interest and** shall include:

17 **(1) the qualifications necessary for the Board to provide a provisional**
18 **license to an internationally trained physician to obtain a provisional license**
19 **to practice at a participating health care facility, as defined in section 1397**
20 **of this chapter;**

1 (2) the scope of practice authorized for **standards for participating**
2 **health care facilities to use for the evaluation and assessment of** the holder
3 of a provisional license; and

4 (3) the additional qualifications necessary for an internationally trained
5 physician to obtain a full license to practice medicine in this State following
6 successful completion of the provisional licensure period.

7 Sec. 4. 26 V.S.A. § 1397 is added to read:

8 **§ 1397. PARTICIPATING HEALTH CARE FACILITIES**

9 (a) As used in this section:

10 (1) “Health care facility” **means a hospital, federally qualified health**
11 **center, or community health center.**

12 (2) “Participating health care facility” **means a health care facility that**
13 **meets the requirements of this section and** has the capacity to provide an
14 assessment and evaluation program designed **in accordance with rules**
15 **adopted by the Board pursuant to section 1396 of this chapter** to evaluate
16 an internationally trained physician **holding a provisional license issued**
17 **pursuant to subdivision 1391(g)(1) of this chapter.**

18 (b) In order to be eligible to be a participating health care facility for
19 purposes of **subdivision 1391(g)(1) and section 1396 of** this chapter, a health
20 care facility shall:

1 (1) agree to provide medical mentoring, evaluation, assessment, and
2 support in navigating the U.S. health care system by one or more fully licensed
3 physicians employed by the health care facility to a provisionally licensed
4 physician using an evaluation and assessment system **developed under**
5 **protocols approved that meets the standards established** by the Board **by**
6 **rule pursuant to section 1396 of this chapter;**

7 (2) ensure that the mentoring, evaluation, assessment, and support of a
8 provisionally licensed physician is provided by one or more **fully licensed**
9 physicians who are **licensed under 26 V.S.A. chapter 33 or this chapter and**
10 **who are** physically located in Vermont and that the provisionally licensed
11 physician provides services only to patients physically located in Vermont;

12 (3) carry medical malpractice insurance covering the provisionally
13 licensed physician for the duration of that physician’s employment by the
14 participating health care facility; and

15 (4) not retaliate against or discipline a provisionally licensed physician
16 for making a complaint or pursuing enforcement of an employment-related
17 claim.

18 Sec. **5**. EFFECTIVE DATES

19 (a) Sec. 1 (pathway to licensure for internationally trained physicians;
20 report) and this section shall take effect on passage.

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(b) Sec. 3 (26 V.S.A. § 1396; pathway to licensure for internationally trained physicians; rulemaking) shall take effect on July 1, 2027.

(c) Secs. 2 (26 V.S.A. § 1391; qualifications for medical licensure) and 4 (26 V.S.A. § 1397; participating health care facilities) shall take effect on July 1, 2028.

and that after passage the title of the bill be amended to read: “An act relating to a pathway to licensure for internationally trained physicians”

(Committee vote: _____)

Representative _____
FOR THE COMMITTEE