

S.142 – Department of Health proposal for strike-all amendment

Sec. 1. PATHWAY TO LICENSURE FOR INTERNATIONALLY TRAINED
PHYSICIANS; REPORT **(similar to Sec. 4 as passed by Senate)**

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

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

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

(3) a proposal for licensing internationally trained physicians to practice medicine in Vermont, including potential qualifications and supervision requirements for licensure, **proposed requirements for recency of practice**, a summary of any additional resources and statutory authority needed, and a plan and timeline for implementing the licensing program; and

(4) any additional information that the Department deems relevant to a robust consideration of the issues related to licensing internationally trained physicians to practice medicine in Vermont.

(b) In preparing the report required by this section, the Department shall consult with other states that have implemented licensing programs for internationally trained physicians; the Windham County Branch of the NAACP; third-party credentialing services; the Vermont Medical Society; the Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Systems; and other advocacy organizations, researchers, and other entities whose expertise is relevant to developing the report.

Sec. 2. 26 V.S.A. § 1393 is added to read: **(NEW)**

§ 1393. PATHWAY TO LICENSURE FOR INTERNATIONALLY TRAINED
PHYSICIANS; RULEMAKING

The Board shall establish a pathway to licensure for internationally trained physicians by rule in accordance with 3 V.S.A. chapter 25. The rules shall include:

- (1) the qualifications necessary for the Board to provide a provisional license to an internationally trained physician;
- (2) the scope of practice authorized for the holder of a provisional license; and
- (3) the additional qualifications necessary for an internationally trained physician to obtain a full license to practice medicine in this State following successful completion of the provisional licensure period.

Sec. 3. 26 V.S.A. § 1391 is amended to read:

§ 1391. QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEDICAL LICENSURE

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(g) Internationally trained physicians and medical graduates. The Board may issue a license to an internationally trained physician or medical graduate who has successfully

completed the pathway to licensure ~~set forth in subchapter 3B of this chapter~~ **established by the Board by rule pursuant to section 1393 of this chapter.**

Sec. 4. EFFECTIVE DATES

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

(b) Sec. 2 (26 V.S.A. § 1393) shall take effect on July 1, 2027.

(c) Sec. 3 (26 V.S.A. § 1391) shall take effect on July 1, 2028.