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S.142 Relicensing Bill – Testimony #2: House Committee on Health Care

Dear House Committee on Health Care:

At your request, I am sending my recommendations for improved wording of S.142:

1. In the new amendment Section 4(b): change Vermont chapter of the NAACP to **Windham County NAACP**. There is no statewide chapter. We collaborate regularly with the Rutland Area Branch of the NAACP; however, all of our advocacy for S.142 has been done by the Health Justice Committee of the Windham County NAACP.

2. **Workforce Authorization**: We realize that workforce authorization needs to be defined - an oversight in S142. New wording can be inserted in Section 1391 Qualifications for Medical Licensure OR Section 1426 Provisional License to Practice with Supervision. We want to stay true to the purpose of this bill and ensure the pathway is available to ITPs residing in Vermont or the United States at the time of application.

Other states have included such language in their bills in a variety of ways. When looking at other bills, we find that the language used in Wisconsin might be the most comprehensive: [Wisconsin AB 954](#) includes: "the applicant has, or will have prior to working as a physician in this state, a federal immigration status and employment authorization that enables the applicant to work as a physician in this state."

- Note: The use of future tense recognizes current federal processing delays and allows individuals with pending work authorization to begin the licensure application process while waiting. This language is not intended to allow applications from individuals residing outside the United States.

3. **Need to list a better dependable universally recognized accreditation resource** Present wording - 1426(1)(A) *The applicant has received a degree of doctor of medicine or its equivalent from a legally chartered medical school outside the US that is recognized by the World Health organization or the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER) or that appears on the official list of medical schools recognized by the Medical Board of California.*

No single global accreditation authority exists for medical schools worldwide. Therefore, we recommend that the bill relies on the World Directory of Medical Schools <https://www.wdoms.org/>. This is the same list that determines eligibility for Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates (ECFMG) certification and associated credential verification and would therefore create synergies in the licensure process for ITPs.

Please invite Dr. Katie Wells to testify - as a member of the Consortium of Universities for Global Health, she will be a valuable resource.

Thank you for this opportunity to propose changes in the bill's wording.

Sincerely,

Diana Wahle, Chair, Windham County NAACP Health Justice Committee