

March 14, 2016

The Honorable Tony Albright  
House Committee on Health and Human Services Reform  
407 State Office Building  
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.  
St Paul, MN 55155

Dear Representative Albright:

**The American Osteopathic Association (AOA) and the Minnesota Osteopathic Medical Society (MOMS) are writing in support of HF 2445.** This bill would allow the makeup of the Board of Medical Practice to include more than one osteopathic physician (DO). This bill would also provide equity in the number of attempts DO applicants have to take their licensure examination series.

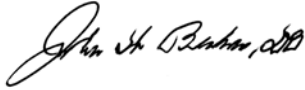
The AOA represents more than 123,000 osteopathic physicians (DOs) and osteopathic medical students, promotes public health, encourages scientific research, serves as the primary certifying body for DOs, is the accrediting agency for osteopathic medical schools, and has federal authority to accredit hospitals and other health care facilities. More information on DOs/osteopathic medicine can be found at [www.osteopathic.org](http://www.osteopathic.org). MOMS is a professional organization that represents over 850 DOs providing patient care in Minnesota.

When the Medical Practice Act was amended in 2014, the intent was to provide the opportunity for more than one DO to sit on the Board of Medical Practice if qualified individuals were identified. The language in the existing law prevents this due to a technical language error in Section 1, and this bill would address that issue. Additionally, MD applicants are provided nine attempts to pass their licensure examination series, while DO applicants only have six attempts under current law. This bill would also amend existing law to allow both MD and DO applicants nine attempts to pass their licensure examination series.

**The AOA and MOMS appreciates your leadership on HF 2445 and voices our support for this important piece of legislation.** Should you need any additional information, please feel free to contact Nicholas Schilligo, MS, Associate Vice President, State Government Affairs, at [nschilligo@osteopathic.org](mailto:nschilligo@osteopathic.org) or (800) 621-1773, ext. 8185.

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Sincerely,



John Becher, DO  
President, AOA



Abe Hammell, DO  
President, MOMS

CC: Boyd R. Buser, DO, AOA President-elect  
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