

House Research Act Summary

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Overview

This act makes substantive and technical changes to licensing and registration statutes for certain health occupations governed by the Board of Medical Practice—physicians, acupuncture practitioners, and athletic trainers. Sections 1 to 3 amend provisions governing physicians, sections 4 to 6 amend acupuncture practitioner statutes, and sections 7 to 10 amend statutes on athletic trainers.

Section

- 1 United States or Canadian medical school graduates.** Amends § 147.02, subd. 1. In a subdivision listing the requirements for licensure to practice medicine, lengthens the period of time applicants enrolled in or graduated from certain dual degree programs have for passing specified portions of the licensing exam to the shorter of either (1) seven years plus the time taken to obtain the non-MD degree, or (2) ten years. (Under current law, all applicants taking the exam must pass certain portions of the exam within seven years.) Also makes a technical change.
- 2 Endorsement; reciprocity.** Amends § 147.03, subd. 1. In a subdivision listing the requirements for licensure to practice medicine by endorsement or reciprocity, specifies that only applicants who passed their initial licensing exam more than ten years ago must pass a special purpose exam or be certified by a specialty board. Adds a cross-reference to section 1, above, to require applicants to pass certain portions of the exam within the time periods in that section.
- 3 Requirements.** Amends § 147.037, subd. 1. In a subdivision listing the requirements for licensure for foreign medical school graduates, modifies language identifying which foreign medical school graduates are exempt from completing a graduate, clinical medical training program in the U.S. or Canada, to make this language conform with current federal rules. Specifies that only applicants for licensure who passed their initial licensing exam more than ten years ago must pass a special purpose exam or be certified by a specialty board. Adds a cross-reference to section 1, above, to require applicants to pass certain portions of the exam within

the time periods in that section.

- 4 Exceptions.** Amends § 147B.02, subd. 4. Allows a person to practice acupuncture without a license if the person is studying acupuncture in a formal course of study or intern program and the practice is supervised by a visiting acupuncture instructor who is exempt from licensure requirements (current law requires such persons to practice under the supervision of a licensed acupuncturist).
- 5 Renewal.** Amends § 147B.02, subd. 9. In a section establishing procedures for license renewal for acupuncture practitioners, requires those licensed by equivalency or reciprocity to satisfy the same continuing education requirements as practitioners with regular acupuncture licenses. (Current law requires acupuncture practitioners licensed by equivalency or reciprocity to complete one half of the number of continuing education requirements as practitioners holding regular acupuncture licenses.)
- 6 Administration; compensation; removal; quorum.** Amends § 147B.05, subd. 2. Changes the expiration date of the acupuncture advisory council from 1999 to 2003.
- 7 Temporary registration.** Amends § 148.7808, subd. 4. Specifies that temporary registrations for athletic trainers cannot be renewed.
- 8 Temporary permit.** Amends § 148.7808, subd. 5. Strikes language establishing registration requirements for athletic trainers during a two-year transition period after the registration requirements for athletic trainers were enacted (the transition period is over and these registration standards are no longer available). Authorizes the Board of Medical Practice to issue a temporary permit to practice as an athletic trainer to applicants who have applied for registration and are waiting for the Board to act on their applications. Such permits are valid only until the Board meets and makes a decision on the person's application.
- 9 Fees.** Amends § 148.7815, subd. 1. Strikes language setting all athletic trainer registration and renewal fees at \$100. Sets registration fees as follows: application fee, \$50; annual registration fee, \$100; temporary registration, \$100; temporary permit, \$50.
- 10 Proration of fees.** Amends § 148.7815, subd. 2. Permits the Board to prorate the initial registration fee for athletic trainers. Strikes language that establishes the existing scheme for fee proration, in which applicants for initial registration who apply in the last six months of the year must pay the full registration fee and applicants who apply in the first six months of the year must pay one half of the registration fee.