## House Research

# - Bill Summary :

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**Version:** First engrossment

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**Subject:** Board of Medical Practice title protection and disciplinary action

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### Overview

This bill, if passed, would make technical changes to the Board of Medical Practice grounds for disciplinary action, and would clarify title protection for professionals licensed by the board.

#### **Section**

- Practicing without license; penalty. Amends § 147.081, subds. 2 and 3. Adds violation of proposed section 147.082 relating to title protection to violations amounting to gross misdemeanor. Removes the use of certain titles or designations by a person in any profession relating to the diagnosis of human disease or conditions from acts constituting the practice of medicine.
- **Title protection.** Proposes coding for § 147.082. Prohibits a person not licensed under chapter 147 from using the title "doctor of medicine," "medical doctor," "doctor of osteopathic medicine," "osteopathic physician," "physician," "surgeon," "M.D.," or "D.O.," in the conduct of any occupation relating to the diagnosis of human disease or conditions.
- **Grounds listed.** Amends § 147.091, subd. 1. Modifies grounds for disciplinary action by the board.
  - (g) Lists the following as unethical or improper conduct:
    - (1) conduct likely to deceive or defraud the public;
    - (2) conduct likely to harm the public; and

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#### **Section**

(3) conduct that demonstrates a willful or careless disregard for the health, welfare, or safety of a patient.

Adds professionally incompetent medical practice to the list of unethical or improper conduct.

- (h) Modifies language and adds licensed or unlicensed health care providers to those a physician must properly supervise.
- (j) Specifies that an adjudication that may result in disciplinary action must be made by a court of competent jurisdiction, within or outside Minnesota.
- (k) Modifies language defining unprofessional conduct.
- (l) Modifies list of reasons for inability to practice medicine by removing "drunkenness," adding "intoxication," adding "diminished cognitive ability," and adding "loss of motor skills."
- (s) Modifies inappropriate prescribing, including the failure to properly prescribe a drug or device.