

**CS FOR SENATE BILL NO. 71(L&C)**

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FIRST LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY THE SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 4/30/99

Referred: Rules

Sponsor(s): SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

**A BILL**

**FOR AN ACT ENTITLED**

1 **"An Act relating to licensure by the State Medical Board."**

2 **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

3 \* **Section 1.** AS 08.64.200(a) is amended to read:

4 (a) Except for foreign medical graduates as specified in AS 08.64.225, each  
5 physician applicant shall

6 (1) submit a certificate of graduation from a legally chartered medical  
7 school accredited by the Association of American Medical Colleges and the Council  
8 on Medical Education of the American Medical Association;

9 (2) submit a certificate from a recognized hospital **or hospitals**  
10 certifying that the applicant has satisfactorily performed the duties of resident physician  
11 or intern for a period of

12 **(A) one year if the applicant graduated from medical school**  
13 **before January 1, 1995, as evidenced by a certificate of completion of the**  
14 **first year of postgraduate training from the facility where the applicant**  
15 **completed the first year of internship or residency; and**

1                    **(B) two years if the applicant graduated from medical school**  
 2                    **on or after January 1, 1995, as evidenced by a certificate of completion of**  
 3                    **the first year of postgraduate training from the facility where the applicant**  
 4                    **completed the first year of internship or residency and a certificate of**  
 5                    **successful completion of one additional year of postgraduate training at a**  
 6                    **recognized hospital;**

7                    (3) submit a list of negotiated settlements or judgments in claims or  
 8                    civil actions alleging medical malpractice against the applicant, including an  
 9                    explanation of the basis for each claim or action; **and**

10                    (4) not have a license to practice medicine in another state, province,  
 11                    or territory which is currently suspended or revoked for disciplinary reasons [; AND

12                    (5) BE A CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES OR BE LAWFULLY  
 13                    ADMITTED FOR PERMANENT RESIDENCE].

14 \* **Sec. 2.** AS 08.64.205 is amended to read:

15                    **Sec. 08.64.205. Qualifications for osteopath applicants.** Each osteopath  
 16                    applicant shall meet the qualifications prescribed in **AS 08.64.200(a)(3) and (4)**  
 17                    [AS 08.64.200(a)(3) - (5)] and shall

18                    (1) submit a certificate of graduation from the legally chartered school  
 19                    of osteopathy approved by the board;

20                    (2) submit a certificate from a hospital approved by the American  
 21                    Medical Association or the American Osteopathic Association **that** [WHICH] certifies  
 22                    that the osteopath has satisfactorily completed and performed the duties of intern or  
 23                    resident physician for

24                    **(A) one year if the applicant graduated from a school of**  
 25                    **osteopathy before January 1, 1995, as evidenced by a certificate of**  
 26                    **completion of the first year of postgraduate training from the facility**  
 27                    **where the applicant completed the first year of internship or residency; or**

28                    **(B) two years if the applicant graduated from a school of**  
 29                    **osteopathy on or after January 1, 1995, as evidenced by a certificate of**  
 30                    **completion of the first year of postgraduate training from the facility**  
 31                    **where the applicant completed the first year of internship or residency and**

**a certificate of successful completion of one additional year of postgraduate training at a recognized hospital;**

(3) take the examination required by AS 08.64.210 or be certified to practice by the National Board of Examiners for Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons.

\* **Sec. 3.** AS 08.64.225 is amended to read:

**Sec. 08.64.225. Foreign medical graduates.** Applicants who are graduates of medical colleges not accredited by the Association of American Medical Colleges and the Council on Medical Education of the American Medical Association **shall**

**(1) [MUST] meet the requirements of AS 08.64.200(a)(3) and (4) [AS 08.64.200(a)(2) - (5)] and 08.64.255;**

**(2) have successfully completed three years of postgraduate training as evidenced by a certificate of completion of the first year of postgraduate training from the facility where the applicant completed the first year of internship or residency and a certificate of successful completion of two additional years of postgraduate training at a recognized hospital; [,] and**

**(3) [MUST] have passed examinations as specified by the board in regulations [OR BE LICENSED BY EXAMINATION IN ANOTHER STATE OR TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES OR PROVINCE OR TERRITORY OF CANADA].**

\* **Sec. 4.** AS 08.64.272(c) is amended to read:

(c) A permit issued under this section is valid for the period specified by the board, but not to exceed **18 months** [ONE YEAR] after the date of issue. **Upon application by a person who pays the required fee and has been accepted by an eligible institution in the state for the purpose of residency or internship, the board may renew a permit issued under this section for a period specified by the board, but not to exceed 18 months after the date of renewal.**

\* **Sec. 5.** AS 08.64.275(a) is amended to read:

(a) A member of the board or its executive secretary may grant a temporary permit to a physician or osteopath for the purpose of substituting for another physician or osteopath licensed in this state. The permit is valid for 60 consecutive days. If circumstances warrant, an extension of the permit may be granted by the board **or its**

1 **designee.**

2 \* **Sec. 6.** AS 08.64.275(b) is amended to read:

3 (b) A physician applying under (a) of this section shall pay the required fee  
4 and shall meet the requirements of **AS 08.64.279 and the requirements of either**  
5 **AS 08.64.200 or 08.64.225** [AND 08.64.279]. In addition, the physician shall submit  
6 evidence of holding a license to practice medicine in a state or territory of the United  
7 States or in a province or territory of Canada.

8 \* **Sec. 7.** AS 08.64.312(b) is amended to read:

9 (b) Before a license may be renewed, the licensee shall submit evidence to the  
10 board **or its designee** that continuing education requirements prescribed by regulations  
11 adopted by the board have been met.

12 \* **Sec. 8.** AS 08.64.312(c) is amended to read:

13 (c) The board **or its designee** may exempt a physician from the requirements  
14 of (b) of this section upon an application by the physician giving evidence satisfactory  
15 to the board **or its designee** that the physician is unable to comply with the  
16 requirements because of extenuating circumstances. However, a person may not be  
17 exempted from more than 15 hours of continuing education in a five-year period.

18 \* **Sec. 9.** AS 08.64.326(a) is amended to read:

19 (a) The board may impose a sanction if the board finds after a hearing that a  
20 licensee

21 (1) secured a license through deceit, fraud, or intentional  
22 misrepresentation;

23 (2) engaged in deceit, fraud, or intentional misrepresentation while  
24 providing professional services or engaging in professional activities;

25 (3) advertised professional services in a false or misleading manner;

26 (4) has been convicted, including conviction based on a guilty plea or  
27 plea of nolo contendere, of

28 (A) a felony;

29 **(B) a misdemeanor in another jurisdiction with elements**  
30 **similar to a felony in this jurisdiction** [OR OTHER CRIME IF THE  
31 FELONY OR OTHER CRIME IS SUBSTANTIALLY RELATED TO THE

1 QUALIFICATIONS, FUNCTIONS, OR DUTIES OF THE LICENSEE]; or

2 (C) [(B)] a crime involving the unlawful procurement, sale,  
3 prescription, or dispensing of drugs;

4 (5) has procured, sold, prescribed, or dispensed drugs in violation of  
5 a law [,] regardless of whether there has been a criminal action;

6 (6) intentionally or negligently permitted the performance of patient  
7 care by persons under the licensee's supervision that does not conform to minimum  
8 professional standards even if the patient was not injured;

9 (7) failed to comply with this chapter, a regulation adopted under this  
10 chapter, or an order of the board;

11 (8) has demonstrated

12 (A) professional incompetence, gross negligence, or repeated  
13 negligent conduct; the board may not base a finding of professional  
14 incompetence solely on the basis that a licensee's practice is unconventional or  
15 experimental in the absence of demonstrable physical harm to a patient;

16 (B) addiction to, severe dependency on, or habitual overuse of  
17 alcohol or other drugs that impairs the licensee's ability to practice safely;

18 (C) unfitness because of physical or mental disability;

19 (9) engaged in unprofessional conduct, in sexual misconduct, or in lewd  
20 or immoral conduct in connection with the delivery of professional services to patients;  
21 in this paragraph, "sexual misconduct" includes sexual contact, as defined by the board  
22 in regulations adopted under this chapter, or attempted sexual contact with a patient  
23 outside the scope of generally accepted methods of examination or treatment of the  
24 patient, regardless of the patient's consent or lack of consent, during the term of the  
25 physician-patient relationship, as defined by the board in regulations adopted under this  
26 chapter, unless the patient was the licensee's spouse at the time of the contact or,  
27 immediately preceding the physician-patient relationship, was in a dating, courtship,  
28 or engagement relationship with the licensee;

29 (10) has violated AS 18.16.010;

30 (11) has violated any code of ethics adopted by regulation by the board;

31 (12) has denied care or treatment to a patient or person seeking

1 assistance from the physician if the only reason for the denial is the failure or refusal  
2 of the patient to agree to arbitrate as provided in AS 09.55.535(a); or

3 (13) has had a license or certificate to practice medicine in another state  
4 or territory of the United States, or a province or territory of Canada, **denied,**  
5 suspended, [OR] revoked, **surrendered while under investigation for an alleged**  
6 **violation, restricted, limited, conditioned, or placed on probation** unless the **denial,**  
7 suspension, [OR] revocation, **or other action** was caused by the failure of the licensee  
8 to pay fees to that state, territory, or province.

9 \* **Sec. 10. APPLICABILITY.** (a) AS 08.64.200, as amended by sec. 1 of this Act;  
10 AS 08.64.205, as amended by sec. 2 of this Act; AS 08.64.225, as amended by sec. 3 of this  
11 Act, and AS 08.64.275(b), as amended by sec. 6 of this Act, apply to applications submitted  
12 on or after the effective date of this Act.

13 (b) AS 08.64.326(a), as amended by sec. 9 of this Act, applies to crimes and licensing  
14 actions that occur before, on, or after the effective date of this Act, when AS 08.64.326 is  
15 implemented under AS 08.64.240(b) with respect to granting or denying an initial license to  
16 an applicant under AS 08.64.

17 (c) AS 08.64.326(a), as amended by sec. 9 of this Act, applies to crimes and licensing  
18 actions that occur on or after the effective date of this Act, when AS 08.64.326 is  
19 implemented with respect to a disciplinary proceeding against a person licensed under  
20 AS 08.64 before the effective date of this Act.