

Legislative Analysis



RECIPROCITY FOR LICENSED CANADIAN HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Phone: (517) 373-8080
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House Bill 5929 (H-1) as referred to second committee

Sponsor: Rep. Mary Whiteford

1st Committee: Health Policy

2nd Committee: Ways and Means

Complete to 11-30-20

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 5929 would amend the Public Health Code to reinstitute the ability for licensed Canadian health professionals to be licensed, registered, or certified in Michigan, provided that they meet the educational, examination, and billing requirements in Michigan law. This endorsement is allowed for health professionals from other states and had been allowed for Canadian health professionals from 2002 until it was allowed to sunset, or expire, in 2012.

The bill provides that the allowance would no longer apply if the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), in consultation with the appropriate licensing board, promulgated a rule disallowing its application for Canadian health professionals whose training, educational requirements, or provincial licensure are not substantially similar to those in Michigan.

MCL 333.16186

BACKGROUND:

In an effort to address the chronic shortage of health professionals in Michigan, [2002 PA 441](#) allowed the Public Health Code's endorsement procedure to apply to licensed Canadian health professionals, in addition to health professionals from other states. [2006 PA 398](#) extended the original sunset of 2007 until 2012. The bill would remove that sunset and effectively reinstate the provision.

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 5929 would not be expected to have an appreciable fiscal impact on any unit of state or local government.

POSITIONS:

A representative of the War Memorial Hospital testified in support of the bill. (9-8-20)

The following entities indicated support for the bill (9-8-20):

Trinity Health Michigan

Michigan Health and Hospital Association

The Economic Alliance for Michigan

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Fiscal Analyst: Marcus Coffin

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