

REVISIONS TO CANADIAN HEALTH PROFESSIONAL RECIPROCITY

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Senate Bill 416 (S-2) as reported from House committee
Sponsor: Sen. Wayne Schmidt
House Committee: Health Policy
Senate Committee: Health Policy and Human Services
Complete to 9-29-21

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

SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 416 would amend the Public Health Code to provide that a health professional who is licensed in Canada and seeking to be licensed, registered, or certified in Michigan *must have taken and passed* the applicable examination. (Currently, the act states that the individual *must take and pass* the examination.) According to testimony in the House Health Policy committee on June 17, 2021, this change addresses a concern that the present tense of the verbs currently in law would require licensed Canadian health professionals to re-take the applicable examinations.

Additionally, the bill provides that, until the appropriate licensing board promulgates rules to implement the reciprocity provision, a Canadian applicant who has taken and passed the Medical Council of Canada Qualifying Examination Parts I and II would be considered to have taken and passed a Canadian national examination approved by the appropriate licensing board.

MCL 333.16186

BACKGROUND:

This section of the code was last amended by 2020 PA 329,¹ which removed a sunset (expiration date), thereby allowing licensed Canadian health professionals to be licensed, registered, or certified in Michigan if they meet the education, examination, and billing requirements in Michigan law. The endorsement procedure was introduced in 2002 and extended in 2006, but was allowed to expire in 2012. The 2020 bill reinstated the reciprocity provision.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Senate Bill 416 would not have a fiscal impact on any unit of state or local government.

¹ 2020 PA 329 (SB 1021): <http://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2019-2020/billanalysis/House/pdf/2019-HLA-1021-9AB1D5F3.pdf>

POSITIONS:

A representative of the Michigan Health and Hospital Association testified in support of the bill. (6-17-21)

The following entities indicated support for the bill:

- Michigan Association of Health Plans (6-17-21)
- Bronson Health System (6-17-21)
- Michigan League for Public Policy (6-17-21)
- LeadingAge Michigan (6-24-21)
- Health Care Association of Michigan (6-24-21)

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■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.