

REQUIRES TWO-THIRDS MAJORITY VOTE
(§§ 1 & NRS 453.221, 453.226, 630.267,
630.268, 639.170)

S.B. 124

SENATE BILL NO. 124—SENATOR DOÑATE

PREFILED JANUARY 28, 2025

JOINT SPONSOR: ASSEMBLYMEMBER GONZÁLEZ

Referred to Committee on Commerce and Labor

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to health care.
(BDR 54-38)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to health care; providing for the limited licensure of certain foreign physicians; prescribing the conditions under which such a limited licensee is authorized to practice medicine; providing for the unrestricted licensure of certain limited licensees; updating certain references; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Existing law provides for the licensing of physicians by the Board of Medical
2 Examiners. (NRS 630.160-630.1607, 630.258-630.2665) Existing law also
3 authorizes a graduate of a foreign medical school to obtain a restricted license to
4 teach, research or practice medicine at a medical facility, medical research facility
5 or medical school by completing certain requirements that are less stringent than
6 the requirements to obtain an unrestricted license. (NRS 630.2645) If the holder of
7 such a restricted license wishes to obtain an unrestricted license, existing law
8 requires the holder to meet all of the qualifications ordinarily required to obtain an
9 unrestricted license. (NRS 630.160, 630.2645)

10 **Section 1** of this bill authorizes the Board of Medical Examiners to issue a
11 limited license to practice medicine to a graduate of a qualified foreign medical
12 school who: (1) holds a valid and unrestricted license to practice medicine issued
13 by a foreign country other than Canada; (2) has completed a residency program or
14 has performed the duties of a physician in that foreign country within a certain
15 amount of time before applying for the license; and (3) possesses certain other
16 qualifications related to the practice of medicine. **Section 1** requires that the holder
17 of a limited license only practice medicine in a facility that has a residency program
18 approved by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education. **Section 1**



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19 requires the Board of Medical Examiners to issue an unrestricted license to the
20 holder of a limited license who: (1) has completed at least 2 years of practice as a
21 full-time physician under the limited license; and (2) remains in good standing.

22 **Section 2** of this bill makes a conforming change to clarify that an applicant for
23 a limited license to practice medicine pursuant to **section 1** is not required to
24 possess the same qualifications as an applicant for a standard license. **Sections 3-6**
25 of this bill update references to certification by the Educational Commission for
26 Foreign Medical Graduates in existing law to reflect the current practices of the
27 Commission.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

1 **Section 1.** Chapter 630 of NRS is hereby amended by adding
2 thereto a new section to read as follows:

3 *1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 630.161, the Board*
4 *may issue a limited license to practice medicine to an applicant*
5 *who:*

6 *(a) Holds a valid and unrestricted license to practice medicine*
7 *issued by a foreign country other than Canada and has:*

8 *(1) Completed a residency program in that foreign country*
9 *within the 5 years immediately preceding the date on which the*
10 *application is submitted or performed the duties of a physician in*
11 *that foreign country for at least 3 of the 5 years immediately*
12 *preceding the date on which the application is submitted; and*

13 *(2) Received an offer for employment as a physician at a*
14 *facility in this State which has a residency program approved by*
15 *the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education;*

16 *(b) Has basic fluency in the English language;*

17 *(c) Is of good moral character and reputation;*

18 *(d) Is in good standing with the foreign regulatory body that*
19 *issued the license described in paragraph (a);*

20 *(e) Is a graduate of a foreign medical school whose*
21 *curriculum is judged to be acceptable by the Board; and*

22 *(f) Has passed all steps of the United States Medical Licensing*
23 *Examination.*

24 *2. The holder of a limited license granted pursuant to this*
25 *section may be disciplined by the Board at any time for any of the*
26 *grounds provided in NRS 630.161 or 630.301 to 630.3065,*
27 *inclusive.*

28 *3. The holder of a limited license issued pursuant to this*
29 *section shall not practice medicine except in a facility that has a*
30 *residency program approved by the Accreditation Council for*
31 *Graduate Medical Education in place. This subsection must not be*
32 *construed to apply to the holder of an unrestricted license issued*
33 *pursuant to subsection 4.*



1 4. *Except as otherwise provided in NRS 630.161, the Board*
2 *shall issue an unrestricted license to practice medicine upon the*
3 *submission of an application by the holder of a limited license*
4 *issued pursuant to this section who:*

5 (a) *Has completed at least 2 years of practice as a full-time*
6 *physician under the limited license; and*

7 (b) *Is in good standing in this State.*

8 5. *The Board shall adopt regulations necessary to carry out*
9 *the provisions of this section.*

10 **Sec. 2.** NRS 630.160 is hereby amended to read as follows:

11 630.160 1. Every person desiring to practice medicine must,
12 before beginning to practice, procure from the Board a license
13 authorizing the person to practice.

14 2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 630.1605 to 630.161,
15 inclusive, and 630.258 to 630.2665, inclusive, *and section 1 of this*
16 *act*, a license may be issued to any person who:

17 (a) Has received the degree of doctor of medicine from a
18 medical school:

19 (1) Approved by the Liaison Committee on Medical
20 Education of the American Medical Association and Association of
21 American Medical Colleges; or

22 (2) Which provides a course of professional instruction
23 equivalent to that provided in medical schools in the United States
24 approved by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education;

25 (b) Is currently certified by a specialty board of the American
26 Board of Medical Specialties and who agrees to maintain the
27 certification for the duration of the licensure, or has passed:

28 (1) All parts of the examination given by the National Board
29 of Medical Examiners;

30 (2) All parts of the Federation Licensing Examination;

31 (3) All parts of the United States Medical Licensing
32 Examination;

33 (4) All parts of a licensing examination given by any state or
34 territory of the United States, if the applicant is certified by a
35 specialty board of the American Board of Medical Specialties;

36 (5) All parts of the examination to become a licentiate of the
37 Medical Council of Canada; or

38 (6) Any combination of the examinations specified in
39 subparagraphs (1), (2) and (3) that the Board determines to be
40 sufficient;

41 (c) Is currently certified by a specialty board of the American
42 Board of Medical Specialties in the specialty of emergency
43 medicine, preventive medicine or family medicine and who agrees
44 to maintain certification in at least one of these specialties for the
45 duration of the licensure, or:



1 (1) Has completed 36 months of progressive postgraduate:
2 (I) Education as a resident in the United States or Canada
3 in a program approved by the Board, the Accreditation Council for
4 Graduate Medical Education, the Royal College of Physicians and
5 Surgeons of Canada, the Collège des médecins du Québec or the
6 College of Family Physicians of Canada, or, as applicable, their
7 successor organizations; or

8 (II) Fellowship training in the United States or Canada
9 approved by the Board or the Accreditation Council for Graduate
10 Medical Education;

11 (2) Has completed at least 36 months of postgraduate
12 education, not less than 24 months of which must have been
13 completed as a resident after receiving a medical degree from a
14 combined dental and medical degree program approved by the
15 Board; or

16 (3) Is a resident who is enrolled in a progressive postgraduate
17 training program in the United States or Canada approved by the
18 Board, the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education,
19 the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada, the
20 Collège des médecins du Québec or the College of Family
21 Physicians of Canada, or, as applicable, their successor
22 organizations, has completed at least 24 months of the program and
23 has committed, in writing, to the Board that he or she will complete
24 the program; and

25 (d) Passes a written or oral examination, or both, as to his or her
26 qualifications to practice medicine and provides the Board with a
27 description of the clinical program completed demonstrating that the
28 applicant's clinical training met the requirements of paragraph (a).

29 3. The Board may issue a license to practice medicine after the
30 Board verifies, through any readily available source, that the
31 applicant has complied with the provisions of subsection 2. The
32 verification may include, but is not limited to, using the Federation
33 Credentials Verification Service. If any information is verified by a
34 source other than the primary source of the information, the Board
35 may require subsequent verification of the information by the
36 primary source of the information.

37 4. Notwithstanding any provision of this chapter to the
38 contrary, if, after issuing a license to practice medicine, the Board
39 obtains information from a primary or other source of information
40 and that information differs from the information provided by the
41 applicant or otherwise received by the Board, the Board may:

42 (a) Temporarily suspend the license;

43 (b) Promptly review the differing information with the Board as
44 a whole or in a committee appointed by the Board;



1 (c) Declare the license void if the Board or a committee
2 appointed by the Board determines that the information submitted
3 by the applicant was false, fraudulent or intended to deceive the
4 Board;

5 (d) Refer the applicant to the Attorney General for possible
6 criminal prosecution pursuant to NRS 630.400; or

7 (e) If the Board temporarily suspends the license, allow the
8 license to return to active status subject to any terms and conditions
9 specified by the Board, including:

10 (1) Placing the licensee on probation for a specified period
11 with specified conditions;

12 (2) Administering a public reprimand;

13 (3) Limiting the practice of the licensee;

14 (4) Suspending the license for a specified period or until
15 further order of the Board;

16 (5) Requiring the licensee to participate in a program to
17 correct an alcohol or other substance use disorder;

18 (6) Requiring supervision of the practice of the licensee;

19 (7) Imposing an administrative fine not to exceed \$5,000;

20 (8) Requiring the licensee to perform community service
21 without compensation;

22 (9) Requiring the licensee to take a physical or mental
23 examination or an examination testing his or her competence to
24 practice medicine;

25 (10) Requiring the licensee to complete any training or
26 educational requirements specified by the Board; and

27 (11) Requiring the licensee to submit a corrected application,
28 including the payment of all appropriate fees and costs incident to
29 submitting an application.

30 5. If the Board determines after reviewing the differing
31 information to allow the license to remain in active status, the action
32 of the Board is not a disciplinary action and must not be reported to
33 any national database. If the Board determines after reviewing the
34 differing information to declare the license void, its action shall be
35 deemed a disciplinary action and shall be reportable to national
36 databases.

37 **Sec. 3.** NRS 630.195 is hereby amended to read as follows:

38 630.195 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 630.1606
39 and 630.1607, in addition to the other requirements for licensure, an
40 applicant for a license to practice medicine who is a graduate of a
41 foreign medical school shall submit to the Board proof that the
42 applicant has received:

43 (a) The degree of doctor of medicine or its equivalent, as
44 determined by the Board; and



1 (b) The ~~[standard]~~ certificate of the Educational Commission for
2 Foreign Medical Graduates . ~~[for a written statement from that~~
3 ~~Commission that the applicant passed the examination given by the~~
4 ~~Commission.]~~

5 2. The proof of the degree of doctor of medicine or its
6 equivalent must be submitted directly to the Board by the medical
7 school that granted the degree. If proof of the degree is unavailable
8 from the medical school that granted the degree, the Board may
9 accept proof from any other source specified by the Board.

10 **Sec. 4.** NRS 630.265 is hereby amended to read as follows:

11 630.265 1. Unless the Board denies such licensure pursuant
12 to NRS 630.161 or for other good cause, the Board shall issue to a
13 qualified applicant a limited license to practice medicine as a
14 resident physician in a graduate program approved by the
15 Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education if the
16 applicant is:

17 (a) A graduate of an accredited medical school in the United
18 States or Canada; or

19 (b) A graduate of a foreign medical school and ~~[has received the~~
20 ~~standard certificate of]~~ *is certified by* the Educational Commission
21 for Foreign Medical Graduates . ~~[for a written statement from that~~
22 ~~Commission that the applicant passed the examination given by it.]~~

23 2. The medical school or other institution sponsoring the
24 program shall provide the Board with written confirmation that the
25 applicant has been appointed to a position in the program. A limited
26 license remains valid only while the licensee is actively practicing
27 medicine in the residency program and is legally entitled to work
28 and remain in the United States.

29 3. The Board may issue a limited license for not more than 1
30 year but may renew the license if the applicant for the limited
31 license meets the requirements set forth by the Board by regulation.

32 4. The holder of a limited license may practice medicine only
33 in connection with his or her duties as a resident physician or under
34 such conditions as are approved by the director of the program.

35 5. The holder of a limited license granted pursuant to this
36 section may be disciplined by the Board at any time for any of the
37 grounds provided in NRS 630.161 or 630.301 to 630.3065,
38 inclusive.

39 **Sec. 5.** NRS 630A.270 is hereby amended to read as follows:

40 630A.270 1. An applicant for a license to practice
41 homeopathic medicine who is a graduate of a foreign medical
42 school shall submit to the Board through its Secretary-Treasurer
43 proof that the applicant:

44 (a) Has received the degree of doctor of medicine or its
45 equivalent, as determined by the Board, from a foreign medical



1 school recognized by the Educational Commission for Foreign
2 Medical Graduates;

3 (b) Has completed 3 years of postgraduate training satisfactory
4 to the Board;

5 (c) Has completed an additional 6 months of postgraduate
6 training in homeopathic medicine;

7 (d) ~~Has received the standard certificate of~~ *Is certified by* the
8 Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates; and

9 (e) Has passed all parts of the Federation Licensing Examination
10 . ~~[, or has received a written statement from the Educational
11 Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates that the applicant has
12 passed the examination given by the Commission.]~~

13 2. In addition to the proofs required by subsection 1, the Board
14 may take such further evidence and require such further proof of the
15 professional and moral qualifications of the applicant as in its
16 discretion may be deemed proper.

17 3. If the applicant is a diplomate of an approved specialty
18 board recognized by this Board, the requirements of paragraphs (b)
19 and (c) of subsection 1 may be waived by the Board.

20 4. Before issuance of a license to practice homeopathic
21 medicine, the applicant who presents the proof required by
22 subsection 1 shall appear personally before the Board and
23 satisfactorily pass a written or oral examination, or both, as to his or
24 her qualifications to practice homeopathic medicine.

25 **Sec. 6.** NRS 630A.320 is hereby amended to read as follows:

26 630A.320 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS
27 630A.225, the Board may issue to a qualified applicant a limited
28 license to practice homeopathic medicine as a resident homeopathic
29 physician in a postgraduate program of clinical training if:

30 (a) The applicant is a graduate of an accredited medical school
31 in the United States or Canada or is a graduate of a foreign medical
32 school recognized by the Educational Commission for Foreign
33 Medical Graduates and has completed 1 year of supervised clinical
34 training approved by the Board.

35 (b) The Board approves the program of clinical training, and the
36 medical school or other institution sponsoring the program provides
37 the Board with written confirmation that the applicant has been
38 appointed to a position in the program.

39 2. In addition to the requirements of subsection 1, an applicant
40 who is a graduate of a foreign medical school must ~~have received
41 the standard certificate of~~ *be certified by* the Educational
42 Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates.

43 3. The Board may issue this limited license for not more than 1
44 year, but may renew the license.



1 4. The holder of this limited license may practice homeopathic
2 medicine only in connection with his or her duties as a resident
3 physician and shall not engage in the private practice of
4 homeopathic medicine.

5 5. A limited license granted under this section may be revoked
6 by the Board at any time for any of the grounds set forth in NRS
7 630A.225 or 630A.340 to 630A.380, inclusive.

8 **Sec. 7.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and
9 approval.

10 2. Sections 1 to 6, inclusive, of this act become effective:

- 11 (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any
12 regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative
13 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
14 (b) On January 1, 2026, for all other purposes.

