

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

513

Honolulu, Hawaii

FEB 12 , 2025

RE: H.B. No. 1379

H.D. 1

Honorable Nadine K. Nakamura
Speaker, House of Representatives
Thirty-Third State Legislature
Regular Session of 2025
State of Hawaii

Madame:

Your Committee on Health, to which was referred H.B. No. 1379
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEALTH,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to exempt foreign medical
graduates from the State's medical licensure residency
requirements, under certain circumstances.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure
from the State Health Planning and Development Agency; Philippine
Medical Association of Hawai'i; Mel A. Ona, M.D., Inc., dba Ohana
Gastroenterology; MDX Hawaii; World Education Services; and five
individuals. Your Committee received comments on this measure
from the Hawaii Medical Board; Hawai'i Pacific Health; Hawaii
Medical Association; and one individual.

Your Committee finds that the State faces a significant
physician shortage, particularly in primary care and specialty
fields. Your Committee further finds that some foreign medical
graduates are unable to become licensed in the State, even if they
practice in a high demand specialty, because they did not a
complete a residency that meets the requirements of the State's
existing licensure laws. Your Committee believes that allowing
foreign medical graduates who have received training comparable to



that of American or Canadian medical school graduates will create an alternative pathway to licensure while maintaining high quality and safety standards.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Requiring foreign medical graduates to be graduates of schools listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools;
- (2) Requiring foreign medical graduates to demonstrate a proficiency in the English language;
- (3) Amending the types of training a foreign medical graduate may substitute in lieu of one year of residency training;
- (4) Requiring foreign medical graduates to pass the United States Medical Licensing Examination;
- (5) Changing the effective date to July 1, 3000, to encourage further discussion; and
- (6) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Health that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 1379, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 1379, H.D. 1, and be referred to your Committee on Consumer Protection & Commerce.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Health,


GREGG TAKAYAMA, Chair



45CR 513

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1379		Committee Referral: HLT, CPL		Date: Feb 7, 2023	
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.					
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)					
HLT Members		Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. TAKAYAMA, Gregg (C)		X			
2. KEOHOKAPU-LEE LOY, Sue L. (VC)		X			
3. AMATO, Terez		X			
4. CHUN, Cory M.		X			
5. MARTEN, Lisa		X			
6. OLDS, Ikaika		X			
7. TAKENOUCHI, Jenna		X			
8. ALCOS III, David		X			
9. GARCIA, Diamond		X			
TOTAL (9)		9			
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)					
Vice Chair's or designee's signature: _____					
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO					