

ACT 183

H.B. NO. 3419

A Bill for an Act Relating to Licensing Qualifications to Practice Medicine and Surgery.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. Section 453-4, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§453-4 Qualifications for examination and licensure. (a) Except as otherwise provided by law, no person shall be licensed to practice medicine or surgery unless the applicant has passed an examination and has been found to [be possessed of] possess the necessary qualifications.

(b) Before any applicant shall be eligible for the examination, the applicant shall furnish proof satisfactory to the board that:

- (1) The applicant is of demonstrated competence and professional knowledge;
- (2) (A) The applicant is a graduate of a medical school or college whose program leading to the M.D. degree is accredited by the Liaison Committee on Medical Education, and has served a residency of at least one year in a program which has been accredited for the training of resident physicians by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, or if outside the United States, in a program which is shown by the applicant to the satisfaction of the board to possess standards substantially the equivalent of those required for such accreditation by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education; or
- (B) The applicant is a graduate of a foreign medical school and has had at least two years of residency in a program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, and:
 - (i) Holds the national certificate of the Educational Commission for Foreign Medical Graduates, or its successor; or
 - (ii) Holds the certificate of the Fifth Pathway Program of the American Medical Association;

provided that for a period of two years after June 26, 1990, the requirements of subsection (b)(2)(B)(i) and (ii) shall not be appli-

cable to any applicant who has had four years of residency in a program accredited by the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education.

(c) Applicants who have passed the National Board of Medical Examiners examination (NBME), the Federation Licensing Examination (FLEX), or the United States Medical Licensing Examination (USMLE), or a combination of these examinations as approved by the board, with scores deemed satisfactory by the board, and who meet the requirements of subsection (b) shall be licensed without the necessity of any further examination; provided that with respect to any applicant, the board may require letters of evaluation, professional evaluation forms, and interviews with chiefs of service or attending physicians who have been associated with an applicant, or chief residents on a service who have been associated with an applicant during the applicant's training or practice, to be used by the board in assessing the applicant's qualifications to practice medicine.

(d) Applicants who are licensed in another state by virtue of having passed a state-produced examination may qualify for licensure if they have passed the Special Purpose Examination (SPEX) and meet the requirements of subsection (b); provided that the board may require letters of evaluation, professional evaluation forms, and interviews with chiefs of service or attending physicians who have been associated with an applicant, or chief residents on a service who have been associated with an applicant during the applicant's training or practice, to be used by the board in assessing the applicant's qualifications to practice medicine."

SECTION 2. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 17, 1996.)