

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

2025-1648 HB1379 HD1 HSCR HMSO



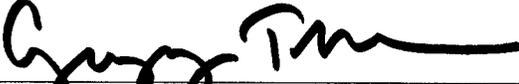
that of American or Canadian medical school graduates will create an alternative pathway to licensure while maintaining high quality and safety standards.

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,

  
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GRACE TAKAYAMA, Chair



