

ACT 110

S.B. NO. 2794

A Bill for an Act Relating to Medicine and Surgery.

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

SECTION 1. Section 453-2, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§453-2 License required; exceptions. Except as otherwise provided by law, no person shall practice medicine or surgery in the State either gratuitously or for pay, or shall offer to so practice, or shall advertise or announce one’s self, either publicly or privately, as prepared or qualified to so practice, or shall append the letters “DR.” or “M.D.” to one’s name, with the intent thereby to imply that the individual is a practitioner of medicine or surgery, without having a valid unrevoked license or a limited and temporary license, obtained from the board of medical examiners, in form and manner substantially as hereinafter set forth.

Nothing herein shall:

- (1) Apply to so-called Christian Scientists so long as they merely practice the religious tenets of their church without pretending a knowledge of medicine or surgery;
- (2) Prohibit service in the case of emergency or the domestic administration of family remedies;
- (3) Apply to any commissioned medical officer in the United States [army, navy, marine corps,] armed forces or public health service, engaged in the discharge of one’s official duty, nor to any practitioner of medicine and surgery from another state when in actual consultation with a licensed practitioner of this State if the practitioner from another state, at the time of such consultation, is licensed to practice in the state in which the practitioner resides; provided that the practitioner from another state shall not open an office, or appoint a place to meet patients, or receive calls within the limits of the State; and provided further that the laws and regulations relating to contagious diseases are not violated; or
- (4) Prohibit services rendered by any person certified under part II of this chapter to provide emergency medical services or any physician assistant when such services are rendered under the direction and control of a physician licensed in this State except for final refraction resulting in a prescription for spectacles, contact lenses, or visual training as performed by an oculist or optometrist duly licensed by the State. Such direction and control shall not be construed in every case to require the personal presence of the supervising and controlling physician. Any physician who employs or directs a person certified under part II of this chapter to provide emergency medical services or physician assistant shall retain full professional and personal responsibility for any act which constitutes the practice of medicine when performed by such person or physician assistant.”

SECTION 2. Section 453-3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§453-3 Limited and temporary licenses. The board of medical examiners shall issue a limited and temporary license to an applicant who has not been examined as required by section 453-4, and against whom no disciplinary proceedings are pending in any state or territory, if the applicant is otherwise qualified to be examined, and upon determination that:

- (1) There is an absence or a shortage of licensed physicians in a particular locality, and that the applicant has been duly licensed as a physician by written examination under the laws of another state or territory of the United States. A limited and temporary license issued hereunder shall permit the practice of medicine and surgery by the applicant only in the particular locality, and no other, as shall be set forth in the license issued to the applicant. The license shall be valid only for a period of eighteen months from the date of issuance. The board shall establish guidelines to determine a locality with an absence or shortage of physicians. For this purpose, the board may consider a locality to have an absence or shortage of physicians if the absence or shortage results from the temporary loss of a physician. In designating a locality with an absence or shortage of physicians, the board shall not delegate its authority to a private organization;
- (2) The applicant is to be employed by an agency or department of the state or county government, and that the applicant has been duly licensed as a physician by written examination under the laws of another state or territory of the United States. A limited and temporary license issued hereunder shall only be valid for the practice of medicine and surgery while the applicant is in the employ of such governmental agency or department and in no case shall be used to provide private patient care for a fee. A license issued under this paragraph may be renewed from year to year;
- (3) The applicant would practice medicine and surgery only while under the direction of a physician regularly licensed in the State other than as permitted by this section, and that the applicant intends to take the regular licensing examination conducted by the board within the next eighteen months. In no case shall a limited and temporary license issued hereunder be valid for more than a period of eighteen months from the date of issuance;
- (4) The applicant has been appointed as a resident or accepted for specialty training in a hospital approved by the board, and that the applicant shall be limited in the practice of medicine and surgery to the extent required by the duties of the applicant's position or by the program of training while at the hospital. [A limited and temporary license hereunder shall be issued without regard to the requirement of section 453-4(4) relative to residency.] The license shall be valid during the period in which the applicant remains as a resident in training, and may be renewed from year to year during the period; or
- (5) A public emergency exists, and that the applicant has been duly licensed as a physician by written examination under the laws of another state or territory of the United States. A limited and temporary license issued hereunder shall only be valid for the period of such public emergency.

Nothing herein requires the registration or licensing hereunder of nurses, or other similar persons, acting under the direction and control of a licensed physician.”

SECTION 3. 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 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.

(c) Diplomates of the National Board of Medical Examiners or those who have passed the federation licensing examination (FLEX) 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.”

SECTION 4. Section 453-5.3, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsections (d) and (g) to read as follows:

“(d) The board shall approve temporary certification of an applicant under this section if the applicant has graduated from a board approved training program within twelve months of the date of application and has never taken a national certifying examination approved by the board but otherwise meets the requirements of this section, has filed a complete application with the board, and has paid all required fees. If the applicant fails to apply for, or to take, the next succeeding examination or fails to pass the examination or fails to receive a certificate, all privileges under this section shall automatically cease upon written notification sent to the applicant by the board. A temporary certificate may be issued only once to each person.

(g) The certification of a physician assistant shall be subject to revocation, limitation, or suspension under section 453-8[.] and an application for certification may be denied for the same reasons.”

SECTION 5. Section 453-6.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is repealed.

SECTION 6. Section 453-8, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§453-8 Revocation, limitation, suspension, or denial of licenses. (a) Any license to practice medicine and surgery may be revoked, limited, or suspended by the board of medical examiners at any time in a proceeding before the board, or may be denied, for any one or more of the following acts or conditions on the part of the holder of such license or the applicant therefor:

- (1) Procuring, or aiding or abetting in procuring, a criminal abortion;
- (2) Employing any person to solicit patients for one's self;
- (3) Engaging in false, fraudulent, or deceptive advertising, including, but not limited to:
 - (A) Making excessive claims of expertise in one or more medical specialty fields;
 - (B) Assuring a permanent cure for an incurable disease; or
 - (C) Making any untruthful and improbable statement in advertising one's medical or surgical practice or business;
- (4) Being habituated to the excessive use of drugs or alcohol; or being addicted to, dependent on, or an habitual user of a narcotic, barbiturate, amphetamine, hallucinogen, or other drug having similar effects;
- (5) Practicing medicine while the ability to practice is impaired by alcohol, drugs, physical disability, or mental instability;
- (6) Procuring a license through fraud, misrepresentation, or deceit or knowingly permitting an unlicensed person to perform activities requiring a license;
- (7) Professional misconduct, gross negligence, or manifest incapacity in the practice of medicine or surgery;
- (8) Incompetence or multiple instances of negligence, including, but not limited to, the consistent use of medical service which is inappropriate or unnecessary;
- (9) Conduct or practice contrary to recognized standards of ethics of the medical profession as adopted by the Hawaii Medical Association or the American Medical Association;
- (10) Violation of the conditions or limitations upon which a limited or temporary license is issued;
- (11) Revocation, suspension, or other disciplinary action by another state or federal agency of a license, or certificate, or medical privilege for reasons as provided in this section;
- (12) Conviction, whether by nolo contendere or otherwise, of a penal offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician, notwithstanding any statutory provision to the contrary;
- (13) Violation of chapter 329, uniform controlled substance act, or any rule adopted thereunder;
- (14) Failure to report to the board, in writing, any disciplinary decision issued against the licensee or the applicant in another jurisdiction within thirty days after the disciplinary decision is issued; or
- (15) Submitting to or filing with the board any notice, statement, or other document required under this chapter, which is false or untrue or contains any material misstatement or omission of fact.

(b) If any license is revoked, limited, suspended, or denied by the board for any act or condition listed in this section, the board shall notify the holder of, or the applicant for, the license in writing of the revocation, limitation, suspension,

or denial. Any license to practice medicine and surgery which has been revoked under this section may be restored by the board.”

SECTION 7. Section 453-32.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§453-32.5 Temporary certification. The board shall approve temporary certification of an applicant under section 453-32 if the applicant has graduated from a board approved training program within twelve months of the date of application and has never taken the written and practical examination of the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians for that level of practice but otherwise meets the requirements of section 453-32, has filed a complete application with the board, and has paid all required fees.

If the applicant fails to apply for, or to take, the next succeeding examination or fails to pass the examination or fails to receive a certificate, all privileges under this section shall automatically cease upon written notification sent to the applicant by the board. A temporary certificate for each level of practice may be issued only once to each person.

Prior to practicing under temporary certification, applicants shall notify the board in writing of any and all employers under whom they will be performing services.”

SECTION 8. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.¹

SECTION 9. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved May 24, 1988.)

Note

1. Edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5.