

2024 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 972 (Substitute for House Bill No. 959 by Representative Deshotel)

BY REPRESENTATIVE DESHOTEL

LICENSING: Allows the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners to grant certain temporary permits and licenses

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 37:1275.2, relative to licenses authorized by certain departments, boards,  
3 commissions, and offices; to allow the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners  
4 to grant certain temporary permits and licenses; to provide for requirements for  
5 international medical graduates; to limit certain practices; to provide for licensure of  
6 certain physicians; to require rule promulgation; and to provide for related matters.

7 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

8 Section 1. R.S. 37:1275.2 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

9 §1275.2. International physicians; temporary permit; licensure

10 A. The board may grant a temporary permit to practice medicine in this state  
11 to an international medical graduate who satisfies all of the following criteria:

12 (1) Has been granted a medical doctorate or substantially similar degree by  
13 an international medical program of good standing. For the purposes of this Section,  
14 "international medical program" means a medical school, residency program,  
15 medical internship program, or entity that provides physicians with a medical  
16 education or training outside of the United States that is substantially similar to the  
17 medical education or training required to practice as a physician in this state. The  
18 international medical graduate shall submit documentation or a certification from a  
19 medical school whose curriculum is judged to be acceptable by the board.

1           (2) Is in good standing with the medical licensing or regulatory institution  
2           of the individual's licensing country.

3           (3) Has completed a residency or substantially similar post-graduate medical  
4           training in the individual's licensing country or practiced as a medical professional  
5           performing the duties of a physician in the individual's licensing country for no less  
6           than five years.

7           (4) Is a citizen of the United States or Canada or legally entitled to live or  
8           work in the United States and possesses basic fluency in the English language.

9           (5) Has submitted sufficient evidence to the board that the applicant has an  
10          offer for employment as a physician at a facility owned or operated by a hospital  
11          licensed in this state.

12           B. An international medical graduate who is granted a temporary permit  
13          pursuant to this Section shall only provide medical services at a facility owned or  
14          operated by a hospital licensed by this state.

15           C. The board may revoke a temporary permit issued pursuant to this Section  
16          based upon a finding that clear and convincing evidence exists that a temporary  
17          permit holder's medical services violated medical safety, competency, or conduct  
18          standards established by the board.

19           D. The board shall grant a full and unrestricted license to practice medicine  
20          to the holder of a temporary permit issued pursuant to this Section who is in good  
21          standing two years after the date of the issuance of the temporary permit. A holder  
22          of a temporary permit who obtains a full and unrestricted license is not subject to the  
23          limitation of practicing at a licensed hospital.

24           E. The board shall promulgate any rules and regulations pursuant to the  
25          Administrative Procedure Act that may be necessary to effectuate the provisions of  
26          this Section.

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**DIGEST**

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 972 Engrossed

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Deshotel

**Abstract:** Permits the La. State Board of Medical Examiners to grant temporary permits and licenses to certain international medical graduates.

Proposed law permits the La. State Board of Medical Examiners (LSBME) to grant an international medical graduate a temporary permit to practice medicine in the state if the graduate satisfies all of following criteria:

- (1) Has been granted a medical doctorate or substantially similar degree by an international medical program of good standing.
- (2) Is in good standing with the medical licensing or regulatory institution of the individual's licensing country.
- (3) Has completed a residency or substantially similar post-graduate medical training or practiced as a medical professional performing the duties of a physician.
- (4) Is a citizen of the United States or Canada or legally entitled to live or work in the United States and possesses basic fluency in the English language.
- (5) Has submitted sufficient evidence to the LSBME that the applicant has an offer for employment as a physician.

Proposed law provides that an international medical graduate who is granted a temporary permit pursuant to proposed law shall only provide medical services at a facility owned or operated by a hospital licensed by the state.

Proposed law permits the LSBME to revoke a temporary permit issued pursuant to proposed law based upon certain findings.

Proposed law requires the LSBME to grant a full and unrestricted license to practice medicine to the holder of a temporary permit who is in good standing two years after the date of the issuance of the temporary permit.

Proposed law provides that the LSBME shall promulgate any rules and regulations necessary to effectuate proposed law.

(Adds R.S. 37:1275.2)