

ASSEMBLY, No. 685

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.

District 7 (Burlington)

SYNOPSIS

Provides that Maintenance of Certification is not required for licensed physicians to perform certain professional activities in State.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



1 **AN ACT** concerning Maintenance of Certification by physicians and
2 supplementing Title 45 of the Revised Statutes.

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4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

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7 1. Nothing in current law, regulation, or requirement of the
8 State Board of Medical Examiners shall be construed to require a
9 physician licensed by the State and in compliance with the
10 requirements of the State Board of Medical Examiners regarding
11 biennial registration, to secure a Maintenance of Certification as a
12 condition of licensure, reimbursement, employment, or admitting
13 privileges at a hospital in the State.

14 As used in this section, “Maintenance of Certification” means the
15 successful completion of a continuous professional development
16 program sponsored by one or more of the medical specialty boards
17 of the American Board of Medical Specialties or the American
18 Osteopathic Association, with regard to the clinical skills and
19 knowledge of a particular medical or surgical specialty, which
20 demonstrates a physician’s continuing certification by that medical
21 specialty board.

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23 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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28 This bill provides that nothing in current law, regulation, or
29 requirement of the State Board of Medical Examiners is to be
30 construed to require a licensed physician who is in compliance with
31 the biennial registration requirements to secure a Maintenance of
32 Certification as a condition of licensure, reimbursement,
33 employment, or admitting privileges at a hospital in the State. The
34 bill defines “Maintenance of Certification” as the successful
35 completion of a continuous professional development program
36 sponsored by one or more of the medical specialty boards of the
37 American Board of Medical Specialties or the American
38 Osteopathic Association, with regard to the clinical skills and
39 knowledge of a particular medical or surgical specialty, which
40 demonstrates a physician’s continuing certification by that medical
41 specialty board.

42 Board certification in a particular medical or surgical specialty is
43 voluntary. However, in order to maintain board certification,
44 physicians must undertake a process of continuing education,
45 testing, and evaluation that many physicians argue is burdensome,
46 time-consuming, and without demonstrated benefit to patients or
47 their particular practice.