



**S.B. 160**

126th General Assembly  
(As Introduced)

Sens. Miller, Prentiss, Fingerhut, Dann

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**BILL SUMMARY**

- Requires instruction in cultural competency to be eligible for a certificate of registration to practice medicine or osteopathic medicine.
- Requires continuing education instruction in cultural competency to renew a certificate of registration to practice medicine or osteopathic medicine.
- Requires the State Medical Board to establish criteria for cultural competency instruction programs and criteria for allowing a waiver of instruction.

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**CONTENT AND OPERATION**

**Examination qualification and issue of certificate**

(R.C. 4731.091 and 4731.14)

Under current law, to be eligible for admission to the examination to obtain a certificate of registration from the State Medical Board to practice medicine or osteopathic medicine, an applicant must meet graduate medical education requirements specified in the Revised Code. An applicant who successfully completes the exam and meets the other requirements is issued a certificate.

The bill provides that, as an additional requirement to be admitted to the exam and to obtain a certificate, an individual must complete Board specified hours of instruction in cultural competency.

### **Certificate renewal**

(R.C. 4731.281)

Current law requires the bi-annual renewal of a certificate of registration to practice medicine or osteopathic medicine. A certificate holder must complete, among other requirements, 100 hours of continuing medical education during the preceding two-year period.<sup>1</sup> The bill provides that in addition to the 100 hours of continuing medical education, a certificate holder must complete the number of hours of education in cultural competency required by the Board. The Board may waive the continuing education in cultural competency requirement if criteria established by rule are met.

### **Cultural competency education and adoption of rules**

(R.C. 4731.093 and 4731.284)

The bill requires the Board to adopt rules to establish the education needed to fulfill the cultural competency education requirements for obtaining or renewing a certificate of registration. The bill requires these rules to establish all of the following:

(1) The number of hours of instruction in cultural competency an applicant must complete to be eligible for admission to the certificate examination.

(2) The number of hours of continuing medical education in cultural competency required for renewal of a certificate of registration.

(3) The criteria the Board will consider in deciding whether to waive continuing medical education in cultural competency. These criteria must include demonstration that the certificate holder has attained the equivalent number of hours through a course offered by an institution with a graduate medical education program of cultural competency training.

In developing the rules the Board must consider the problem of race and gender-based disparities in medical treatment decisions and consult with the association of American Medical Colleges or another nationally recognized organization that reviews medical school curricula.

The bill requires the Board to approve, not later than 90 days after the bill's effective date, one or more continuing medical education courses of study

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<sup>1</sup> *The Revised Code allows the Board to determine whether a course, program, or activity qualifies for credit as continuing medical education (R.C. 4731.281).*

included within the programs certified by the Ohio State Medical Association and the Ohio Osteopathic Association that address cultural competency in health care treatment. The courses must provide instruction addressing the problem of race and gender-based disparities in medical treatment.

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## **HISTORY**

ACTION	DATE
Introduced	07-07-05

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