

By Senator Campbell

38-00081C-18

2018636\_\_

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to licensure of internationally  
3       trained physicians; amending s. 458.3124, F.S.;  
4       establishing requirements to allow certain foreign-  
5       trained physicians to obtain a restricted license;  
6       requiring restricted licensees to meet certain  
7       practice conditions; authorizing a restricted licensee  
8       to apply to take Step III of the United States Medical  
9       Licensing Examination in certain circumstances;  
10      providing that a restricted license is valid for a  
11      specified period of time; requiring the department to  
12      issue a full license to a restricted licensee if  
13      certain conditions are met; requiring the Department  
14      of Health to renew a restricted license if certain  
15      conditions are met; authorizing a person whose  
16      restricted license was revoked to seek relicensure  
17      under certain circumstances; providing an effective  
18      date.

19  
20 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

21  
22  
23       Section 1. Section 458.3124, Florida Statutes, is amended  
24 to read:

25       458.3124 Restricted license; certain experienced foreign-  
26 trained physicians.—

27       (1) (a) A person who was trained in a medical school that is  
28 listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools published by  
29 the World Health Organization and is located in a country other

38-00081C-18

2018636\_\_

30 than the United States, Canada, or Puerto Rico may apply to take  
31 Step III of the United States Medical Licensing Examination, if  
32 the person:

33 1.(a) Legally practiced medicine for at least 5 years in  
34 the country in which the school is located;

35 2.(b) Has passed Steps I and II of the United States  
36 Medical Licensing Examination;

37 3.(c) Is certified by the Educational Commission for  
38 Foreign Medical Graduates as qualified for a restricted license  
39 to practice medicine;

40 4.(d) Is not subject to discipline, investigation, or  
41 prosecution in any jurisdiction for acts that threaten the  
42 public health, safety, or welfare or violate chapter 456 or this  
43 chapter; and

44 5.(e) Has been a resident of this state since July 1, 1996.

45 (b)(2) A person applying for licensure under this  
46 subsection ~~section~~ must submit to the department of ~~Health~~ on or  
47 before December 31, 2000:

48 1.(a) A completed application and documentation required by  
49 the board of ~~Medicine~~ to prove compliance with paragraph (a)  
50 ~~subsection (1)~~; and

51 2.(b) A nonrefundable application fee not to exceed \$500  
52 and a nonrefundable examination fee not to exceed \$300 plus the  
53 actual cost to purchase and administer the examination.

54 (c)(3) A person applying under this subsection ~~section~~ may  
55 take the examination a maximum of 5 times within 5 years.

56 (d)(4) A restricted licensee under this subsection ~~section~~  
57 must practice under the supervision of a licensee approved by  
58 the board, with the first year of licensure under direct

38-00081C-18

2018636\_\_

59 supervision and the second year in community service under  
60 indirect supervision, including practicing with organizations  
61 that serve indigent populations, such as s. 501(c)(3) agencies,  
62 public health units, prisons, or other organizations approved by  
63 the board.

64 (2) (a) A person who was trained in a medical school that is  
65 listed in the World Directory of Medical Schools published by  
66 the World Health Organization and is located in a country other  
67 than the United States, Canada, or Puerto Rico may apply for a  
68 restricted medical license, if the person:

69 1. Legally practiced medicine for at least 3 years in the  
70 country in which the school is located;

71 2. Has passed Steps I and II of the United States Medical  
72 Licensing Examination;

73 3. Is certified by the Educational Commission for Foreign  
74 Medical Graduates;

75 4. Is not subject to discipline, investigation, or  
76 prosecution in any jurisdiction for acts that threaten the  
77 public health, safety, or welfare or violate chapter 456 or this  
78 chapter; and

79 5. Is a United States citizen or a resident of this state.

80 (b) A person applying for licensure under this subsection  
81 must submit to the department:

82 1. A completed application and documentation required by  
83 the board to prove compliance with paragraph (a);

84 2. A nonrefundable application fee; and

85 3. A set of fingerprints for background screening pursuant  
86 to s. 456.0135.

87 (c) A person who holds a restricted license under this

38-00081C-18

2018636\_\_

88 subsection must practice:

89 1. A minimum of 160 hours each month for at least 2 years;

90 2. Under the supervision of a physician licensed under  
91 chapter 459 or this chapter, with the first year of practice  
92 under direct supervision and the second year of practice under  
93 indirect supervision; and

94 3. In community service in this state with organizations  
95 that serve indigent populations, areas of critical need, or  
96 rural areas, such as s. 501(c)(3) agencies, public health units,  
97 federally funded community health centers, prisons, or other  
98 organizations approved by the board.

99 (d) A person practicing with a restricted license in  
100 compliance with this subsection may apply to take Step III of  
101 the United States Medical Licensing Examination after completing  
102 2 years of supervised practice.

103 (e) A restricted license issued by the department under  
104 this subsection is valid for 5 years unless the license is  
105 revoked or suspended.

106 (f) Upon the expiration of a restricted license issued  
107 under this subsection, the department shall issue a full license  
108 to the restricted licensee if he or she:

109 1. Is not the subject of disciplinary action,  
110 investigation, or prosecution for a violation which poses a  
111 substantial threat to the public health, safety, or welfare; and

112 2. Pays all required fees.

113 (g) The department shall renew a restricted license under  
114 this subsection upon payment of a renewal fee in the same amount  
115 as the initial application fee if the restricted licensee is not  
116 the subject of disciplinary action, investigation, or

38-00081C-18

2018636\_\_

117 prosecution for a violation that poses or posed a substantial  
118 threat to the public health, safety, or welfare and the board  
119 has not permanently revoked the restricted license.

120 (h) A person whose restricted license was revoked may seek  
121 relicensure under this subsection if the person is no longer the  
122 subject of disciplinary action, investigation, or prosecution.

123 (3)~~(5)~~ Notwithstanding s. 458.311(1)(f), a person who  
124 successfully meets the requirements of subsection (1) or  
125 subsection (2) ~~this section~~ and who successfully passes Step III  
126 of the United States Medical Licensing Examination is eligible  
127 for full licensure as a physician.

128 (4)~~(6)~~ The board shall adopt rules to implement this  
129 section.

130 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2018.