

AN ACT relating to physicians.

*Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:*

➔SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 311.530 TO 311.620 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

(1) *As used in this section:*

(a) *"Continuing medical education" means continued postgraduate medical education intended to provide medical professionals with knowledge of new developments in their field;*

(b) *"Maintenance of certification" means any process requiring periodic recertification examinations to maintain specialty medical board certification;*

(c) *"Maintenance of licensure" means the proprietary framework for physician license renewal established through the Federation of State Medical Boards or its successor organization, which includes additional periodic testing other than continuing medical education; and*

(d) *"Specialty medical board certification" means certification by a board that specializes in one (1) particular area of medicine and typically requires additional and more strenuous examinations than the State Board of Medical Licensure's requirements to practice medicine.*

(2) *The board shall not require any form of maintenance of licensure as a condition of physician licensure, including requiring any form of maintenance of licensure tied to maintenance of certification. The board's regular requirements, including continuing medical education, shall suffice to demonstrate professional competency.*

(3) *The board shall not require any form of specialty medical board certification or any maintenance of certification to practice medicine in Kentucky. No agency or facility that accepts state funds and employs physicians shall discriminate with*

**respect to employment, staff, privileges, or the provision of professional services against physicians who do not maintain specialty medical board certification.**

→Section 2. KRS 216B.017 is amended to read as follows:

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no health facility licensed in the Commonwealth shall discriminate with respect to employment, staff, privileges, or the provision of professional services against a physician licensed to practice medicine on the basis of whether the physician:

- (1)** Holds a medical doctor (M.D.) or doctor of osteopathy (D.O.) degree; **or**
- (2)** **Participates in a specialty medical board certification, maintenance of licensure, or maintenance of certification as described in Section 1 of this Act.**