

REMOVE EXPIRATION DATE (SUNSET) OF THE INTERSTATE MEDICAL LICENSURE COMPACT

Phone: (517) 373-8080
<http://www.house.mi.gov/hfa>

House Bill 4032 as reported from committee

Sponsor: Rep. Rylee Linting

Committee: Health Policy

Revised 3-10-25

Analysis available at
<http://www.legislature.mi.gov>

SUMMARY:

House Bill 4032 would amend the Public Health Code to remove a provision that is now set to automatically repeal the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact on March 28, 2025. (Provisions that establish a prospective “expiration date” for a law—its repeal or inapplicability—are often called sunset provisions, or simply sunsets.)

The Interstate Medical Licensure Compact (section 16189 of the Public Health Code) is an agreement among states that enact it to streamline licensing procedures and requirements for physicians seeking to practice in multiple participating states.¹ The bill entering Michigan into the compact was enacted in 2018 and took effect on March 28, 2019. The compact itself took effect for Michigan on September 24, 2019.

As passed in 2018, the compact was set to be repealed three years after the effective date of its enacting bill (that is, on March 28, 2022). This date was extended by an additional three years (to March 28, 2025) by 2022 PA 38. The bill would remove the sunset provision entirely.

MCL 333.16189

BACKGROUND:

The bill is identical to House Bill 5964 of the 2023-24 legislature as that bill was passed by the House of Representatives. The bill is also identical to Senate Bill 60 of the current legislative session as passed by the Senate and referred to the House Committee on Health Policy.

BRIEF DISCUSSION:

Forty states, including Michigan, belong to the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact or are implementing membership.² The compact makes it easier for a doctor licensed in another participating state to be licensed to practice in Michigan (and likewise for Michigan doctors seeking licensure in other participating states), including for telemedicine consultations in cases where patient and doctor are in different states. According to committee testimony, Michigan’s membership in the compact helps address physician shortages in the state, provide access to care in underserved communities such as those in rural or inner city areas, recruit and

¹ See <https://www.legislature.mi.gov/documents/2017-2018/billanalysis/House/pdf/2017-HLA-4066-99CF832E.pdf> and FAQs: <https://www.michigan.gov/lara/-/media/Project/Websites/lara/bpl/Shared-Files/MD-DO-POD/Interstate-Medical-Licensure-Compact-Commission-Information.pdf>

² <https://imlcc.com/participating-states/> Guam and the District of Columbia are also compact members.

bring more high-quality medical talent into Michigan's health care systems and networks, and avoid lengthy licensing procedures when access to a medical provider is needed. The compact allows member states to share disciplinary and investigative information to ensure professional quality and patient safety. While taking no position on the bill itself, the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA) indicated in written testimony that it has not had any issues in sharing information with, or receiving it from, the compact commission. LARA also put the number of doctors (both M.D.s and D.O.s) who can practice in Michigan under the compact at just under 3,600.³ No opposition to the bill was offered in House committee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

House Bill 4032 would have a neutral fiscal impact on the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs, as the bill would allow LARA to continue existing practices. There is no anticipated fiscal impact on any other units of state or local government.

POSITIONS:

Representatives of the following entities testified in support of the bill (2-19-25):

- Michigan Health and Hospital Association
- Trinity Health

The following entities indicated support for the bill:

- AARP Michigan (2-19-25)
- Blue Cross Blue Shield (2-19-25)
- Detroit Regional Chamber (2-26-25)
- Henry Ford Health (2-19-25)
- Mackinac Center for Public Policy (2-19-25)
- Michigan Association of Health Plans (2-19-25)
- Munson Healthcare (2-19-25)

Legislative Analyst: Rick Yuille
Fiscal Analyst: Una Jakupovic

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House Fiscal Agency staff for use by House members in their deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.

³ <https://www.house.mi.gov/Document/?DocumentId=42808>