

A N N O U N C E M E N T

HB 5311 ENROLLED:

A new law affecting Boards of Medicine (MD) and Osteopathic Medicine (D0) provisions for physicians seeking Florida licensure limited to Areas of Critical Need (ACN) became effective July 1, 2010.

HB 5311, sponsored by Senator Peaden and signed into law by the Governor, expands the ACN licensure eligibility criteria, which required licensure in another jurisdiction, by adding an additional option for applicants not currently licensed in another jurisdiction but with 10 years of honorable military service.

For experienced military physicians who might not qualify for or are not interested in applying for a full Florida license to practice medicine or osteopathic medicine, this bill provides the opportunity to serve Florida patients in those areas where health care is most needed.

What does the bill do?

- Expands this restricted licensure avenue to allopathic and osteopathic physicians (physicians) with 10 years of honorable service in the armed forces.
- Expands the locations where a physician with an ACN certificate may practice to include the following additional settings:
 - Department of Veteran's Affairs,
 - Agency or institution approved by the State Surgeon General that provides health care to underserved populations, and
 - Practice for a limited time to address critical physician specialty, demographic, or geographic needs for this state's physician as determined by the State Surgeon General
- Grants authority to the Boards to deny or restrict any ACN applicant who has not actively practiced medicine in the past 3 years and who may possess diminished or inadequate skills, lack necessary knowledge, or exhibit patterns of deficits in clinical decision making.

How can I get more information?

- Visit the Board websites: www.flhealthsource.com for the full text of the law, review a summary of the application process, and to download of the application form.
- Write, call or fax the boards at:

Board of Medicine,
4052 Bald Cypress Way,
Bin C-03
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850)245-4131,
Fax 412-1268

chandra_prine@doh.state.fl.us

Board of Osteopathic Medicine,
4052 Bald Cypress Way
Bin C-06
Tallahassee, FL 32399
(850) 245-4588
christy_robinson@doh.state.fl.us