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SENATE BILL 5577

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State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1991 Regular Session

By Senators West and Niemi; by request of Department of Health.

Read first time February 8, 1991. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1            AN ACT Relating to the board of medical examiners; amending RCW  
2 18.71.015; and adding a new section to chapter 18.71 RCW.

3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

4            **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.71.015 and 1990 c 196 s 11 are each amended to read  
5 as follows:

6            There is hereby created a board of medical examiners consisting of  
7 six individuals licensed to practice medicine in the state of  
8 Washington, one individual who is licensed as a physician assistant  
9 under chapter 18.71A RCW, and two individuals who are not physicians,  
10 to be known as the Washington state board of medical examiners.

11            The board shall be appointed by the governor. On expiration of the  
12 term of any member, the governor shall appoint for a period of five  
13 years an individual of similar qualifications to take the place of such  
14 member. Each member shall hold office until the expiration of the term

1 for which such member is appointed or until a successor shall have been  
2 appointed and shall have qualified.

3 Each member of the board shall be a citizen of the United States,  
4 must be an actual resident of this state, and, if a physician, must  
5 have been licensed to practice medicine in this state for at least five  
6 years.

7 The board shall meet as soon as practicable after appointment and  
8 elect a chair and a vice-chair from its members. Meetings shall be  
9 held at least four times a year and at such place as the board shall  
10 determine and at such other times and places as the board deems  
11 necessary. A majority of the board members serving shall constitute a  
12 quorum for the transaction of board business.

13 It shall require the affirmative vote of a majority of a quorum of  
14 the board to carry any motion or resolution, to adopt any rule, or to  
15 pass any measure(~~(, or to authorize or deny the issuance of any~~  
16 ~~certificate)).~~ A majority of the members appointed to a panel of the  
17 board shall constitute a quorum for the panel to transact business  
18 delegated to it by the board.

19 Each member of the board shall be compensated in accordance with  
20 RCW 43.03.240 and in addition thereto shall be reimbursed for travel  
21 expenses incurred in carrying out the duties of the board in accordance  
22 with RCW 43.03.050 and 43.03.060. Any such expenses shall be paid from  
23 funds appropriated to the department.

24 Any member of the board may be removed by the governor for neglect  
25 of duty, misconduct, or malfeasance or misfeasance in office.

26 Vacancies in the membership of the board shall be filled for the  
27 unexpired term by appointment by the governor.

28 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 18.71 RCW  
29 to read as follows:

1       The board may adopt rules pursuant to this section authorizing an  
2 inactive license status.

3       (1) An individual licensed pursuant to chapter 18.71A RCW may place  
4 his or her license on inactive status. The holder of an inactive  
5 license shall not practice medicine and surgery in this state without  
6 first activating the license.

7       (2) The inactive renewal fee shall be established by the secretary  
8 pursuant to RCW 43.70.250. Failure to renew an inactive license shall  
9 result in cancellation in the same manner as an active license.

10       (3) An inactive license may be placed in an active status upon  
11 compliance with rules established by the board.

12       (4) Provisions relating to disciplinary action against a person  
13 with a license shall be applicable to a person with an inactive  
14 license, except that when disciplinary proceedings against a person  
15 with an inactive license have been initiated, the license shall remain  
16 inactive until the proceedings have been completed.