

# FINAL BILL REPORT

## SB 5702

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C 127 L 99  
Synopsis as Enacted

**Brief Description:** Changing physician assistant licensing and practice requirements.

**Sponsors:** Senators Thibaudeau and Deccio.

**Senate Committee on Health & Long-Term Care**  
**House Committee on Health Care**

**Background:** Current law requires the Medical Quality Assurance Commission to adopt rules establishing the qualifications for the licensure of physician assistants. Qualifications for osteopathic physicians' assistants are set by rule by the Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery. Among the requirements for both of these professions is that of eligibility to take an approved examination; however, nothing states that the examination must actually be taken or passed. Some feel that further clarification is needed to assure that all applicants take and pass the examination.

**Summary:** Rules governing physician assistants and osteopathic physicians' assistants must require an applicant for licensure to successfully take and pass an examination within one year of completing their respective training programs. A one-year interim permit may be granted for those who meet all other licensing requirements.

**Votes on Final Passage:**

Senate	48 0
House	95 0

**Effective:** July 25, 1999