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BILL ANALYSIS

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House Bill 5455 (as discharged)
Sponsor: Representative Rylee Linting
House Committee: Health Policy
Senate Committee: Government Operations (discharged)

CONTENT

COMPANION BILL TAG S.B. 303

The bill would reenact within the Public Health Code the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact, which establishes a process that allows physicians to become licensed in multiple states.

Proposed MCL 333.16189

PREVIOUS LEGISLATION

(This section does not provide a comprehensive account of previous legislative efforts on this subject matter.)

The bill is a companion bill to Senate Bill 303. It is also similar to House Bill 5964 of the 2023-2024 Legislative Session. House Bill 5964 passed the House and was placed on immediate passage in the Senate but did not receive a final vote.

Legislative Analyst: Tyler VanHuyse

FISCAL IMPACT

The bill would have a negative, indeterminate fiscal impact on the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs (LARA), and likely no fiscal impact on local units of government. The aspects of the bill and the Compact described below would have a negative fiscal impact.

The bill would allow physicians to choose a qualifying state of principal licensure other than Michigan, potentially resulting in a loss of medical license revenue. It would require Michigan to issue an expedited license to an eligible physician. The State would have to develop and implement a new license for physicians, in addition to the licenses it currently issues for qualified allopathic and osteopathic physicians. Michigan could set a fee amount for this new expedited license, potentially offsetting the cost of establishing it.

Michigan would have to report complaints and disciplinary action against Michigan-licensed physicians to the Interstate Commission. The State also would have to share such information with other member boards upon request. Subpoenas issued by other member states would be enforceable in Michigan. This would potentially require additional regulatory and enforcement staff and resources at the Bureau of Professional Licensing within LARA.

Michigan would have to pay an annual fee to the Interstate Commission to cover its operational costs. The amount of the fee is unknown and would largely depend upon the employment and compensation decisions of the Interstate Commission's executive director. Under the Compact, the executive director has unilateral discretion to select employees and set compensation.

The executive, legislative, and judicial branches of Michigan government would have to enforce the Compact. Potential costs to each branch of government for such enforcement duties are indeterminate. Under the Compact, the Commission is empowered to sue a state for a failure to enforce compliance with the Compact. If Michigan were ever determined to be

in default, it still would be liable for dues, obligations, and liabilities as determined by the Interstate Commission. Any State law in conflict with the Compact would be superseded by the Compact to the extent of the conflict. This could require additional costs for legal review of any laws in the Public Health Code that the Compact would supersede.

Date Completed: 3-24-26 Fiscal Analyst: Nathan Leaman

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This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan Senate staff for use by the Senate in its deliberations and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.