



**BOARD OF
MEDICINE**

Established 1890

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SENATE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
FEBRUARY 21, 2025

TESTIMONY OF
NORTH DAKOTA BOARD OF MEDICINE
SENATE BILL NO. 2395

Chair Wobbema, members of the Committee, I'm Sandra DePountis, Executive Director of the North Dakota Board of Medicine, appearing on behalf of the Board to provide testimony in support of Senate Bill 2395 **as amended**.

The Board of Medicine appreciates all the work done by the Department of Labor this last biennium implementing Senate Bill 2249 and reviewing regulatory and licensing boards in the state. The study was thoughtfully done with continued requests for Board collaboration and input. The Board of Medicine was a part of DOL's Occupational Licensure Advisory Committee (OLAC) and consistently provided information and insight into Board operations as it related to the Board of Medicine.

Senate Bill 2395 is the result of this study and outlines the expectations of all boards to implement consistent standards. The Board of Medicine already implements most of these provisions – licenses are issued within days of a completed application, provisional licenses are issued in between Board meetings, continuing education requirements were addressed during the 2023 legislative session to be less burdensome to licensees, and all our forms and applications are readily accessible online. The Board would like to thank Senator Hogue for his thoughtful amendments to this bill to clarify the law and remove the last provision which required the Board to consider unlicensed experience in lieu of legislatively enacted standards for licensure in health care professions under the Board's jurisdiction.

Thank you for your time and attention and I would be happy to answer any questions.

Mission Statement

The Board's mission is to protect the public's health, safety and welfare by regulating the practice of medicine, thereby ensuring quality health care for the citizens of this state.