

2011 SENATE HUMAN SERVICES

SB 2154

# 2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Senate Human Services Committee  
Red River Room, State Capitol

SB 2154  
1-17-2011  
Job Number 12935

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature



## Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:

Relating to membership of the state board of medical examiners.

## Minutes:

Attached testimony.

**Senator Judy Lee** opened the hearing on SB 2154 and introduced the bill. This is being done to add one additional member to the board of medical examiners and that member would be a physician's assistant. The board of medical examiners has been regulating physician's assistants for some time and this would add one in that profession to the board. They deserve to have representation on the board and to have input into the process.

**Duane Houdek**, Executive Secretary of the ND State Board of Medical Examiners, testified in support of SB 2154. Attachment #1

**Senator Dick Dever** asked if the physician assistants now feel underrepresented.

**Mr. Houdek** replied, yes.

**Senator Dick Dever** asked who determines "of integrity and ability".

**Mr. Houdek** said it was the same standard for physicians and the Governor makes the appointments.

There was no opposing or neutral testimony.

**Senator Spencer Berry** moved a **Do Pass**.

Seconded by **Senator Dick Dever**.

Roll call vote 5-0-0. **Motion carried**.

Carrier is **Senator Spencer Berry**.

Date: 1-17-2011

Roll Call Vote # 1

2011 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2154

Senate HUMAN SERVICES Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken:  Do Pass  Do Not Pass  Amended  Adopt Amendment

Rerefer to Appropriations  Reconsider

Motion Made By Sen. Berry Seconded By Sen. Dever

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Sen. Judy Lee, Chairman	✓		Sen. Tim Mathern	✓	
Sen. Gerald Uglem, V. Chair	✓				
Sen. Dick Dever	✓				
Sen. Spencer Berry	✓				

Total (Yes) 5 No 0

Absent 0

Floor Assignment Sen. Berry

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SB 2154: Human Services Committee (Sen. J. Lee, Chairman)** recommends **DO PASS**  
(5 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2154 was placed on the  
Eleventh order on the calendar.

2011 HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES

SB 2154

# 2011 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

House Human Services Committee  
Fort Union Room, State Capitol

SB 2154  
March 2, 2011  
Job #14847

Conference Committee

Committee Clerk Signature	<i>Marley Kienzle</i>
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**Explanation or reason for introduction of bill/resolution:**

Relating to membership of the state board of medical examiner and to provide for application

**Minutes:**

See Testimony #1
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**Chairman Weisz:** Called the hearing to order on SB 2154.

**Duane Hodek:** Executive Secretary of ND State Board of Medical Examiners testified in support of the bill. (See Testimony #1)

**Rep. Porter:** The way that we set the board up with an A panel-B panel with even numbers. How is this going to affect that strategic set up you use for investigation and complaints with the 13 person on the panel instead of the panel of 6 and 6.

**Duane Hodek:** It will create an imbalance panel with 6 on one and 7 on the other but the balance you created in that statue will remain. It has worked very, very well. We have half the board which investigates the case and the other half serves as a jury and the deciding factor of the case. It will be Panel A because they deal specifically with Physician Assistants issues. The Physician Assistant will be put on this panel otherwise it will be the same.

**Rep. Devlin:** Is there any reason you didn't take one member off and stay with the same number as the board? Is there any reason why you would have to increase the size of the number of the board? Were there no doctors who wanted to leave their position?

**Duane Hodek:** We didn't want to ask any one member to leave.

**NO OPPOSITION**

**Rep. Porter:** I move a Do Pass.

**Rep. Hofstad:** Second.

**VOTE:** 11 yeas 0 no 2 absent – Rep. Paur, Louser

**Bill Carrier: Rep. Devlin**

Date: 3-2-11  
 Roll Call Vote # 1

2011 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2154

House HUMAN SERVICES Committee

Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken:  Do Pass  Do Not Pass  Amended  Adopt Amendment  
 Rerefer to Appropriations  Reconsider

Motion Made By Rep. Porter Seconded By Rep. Hofstad

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
CHAIRMAN WEISZ	✓		REP. CONKLIN	✓	
VICE-CHAIR PIETSCH	✓		REP. HOLMAN	✓	
REP. ANDERSON	✓		REP. KILICHOWSKI	✓	
REP. DAMSCHEN	✓				
REP. DEVLIN	✓				
REP. HOFSTAD	A				
REP. LOUSER	A				
REP. PAUR	✓				
REP. PORTER	✓				
REP. SCHMIDT	✓				

Total (Yes) 11 No 0

Absent 2

Floor Assignment Rep. Devlin

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:



**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

**SB 2154: Human Services Committee (Rep. Weisz, Chairman)** recommends **DO PASS** (11 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2154 was placed on the Fourteenth order on the calendar.

2011 TESTIMONY

SB 2154

#1

**SENATE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**S.B. 2154**

January 17, 2011

Testimony of Duane Houdek  
North Dakota State Board of Medical Examiners

Madam Chairman, members of the Senate Human Services Committee, my name is Duane Houdek, Executive Secretary of the North Dakota State Board of Medical Examiners. I testify in support of Senate Bill 2154, which was introduced at the request of the Board.

The Board is charged by statute to license and regulate physicians and physician assistants. There are approximately 3200 physicians licensed in North Dakota, approximately half of whom practice in the state. There are approximately 250 physician assistants licensed in North Dakota, nearly all of whom practice in the state.

You will see that the current composition of the board is 10 physicians and two members of the public. It is appropriate to have a physician assistant on the board, as we regulate their practice and it will give us additional insight into their practice. We are, I believe, one of the last medical boards to do so, and it is perhaps something we should have done sooner.

I don't know that there are any real issues contained in this legislation, but I would be happy to try to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you.

#1

**HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

**S.B. 2154**

March 2, 2011

Testimony of Duane Houdek  
North Dakota State Board of Medical Examiners

Mr. Chairman, members of the House Human Services Committee, my name is Duane Houdek, Executive Secretary of the North Dakota State Board of Medical Examiners. I testify in support of Senate Bill 2154, which was introduced at the request of the Board.

The Board is charged by statute to license and regulate physicians and physician assistants. There are approximately 3200 physicians licensed in North Dakota, about half of whom practice within the state. There are approximately 250 physician assistants licensed in North Dakota, nearly all of whom practice here.

The current composition of the board is 10 physicians and two members of the public. It is appropriate to have a physician assistant on the board, as we regulate their practice and it will give us additional insight into their relationship with patients and the public, generally. We are one of the last medical boards to add a physician assistant as a member, and it is perhaps something we should have done sooner.

I don't know that there are any real issues contained in this legislation, but I would be happy to try to answer any questions you may have.

Thank you.