

## CHAPTER 2026-108

### Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 809

An act relating to temporary certificates for practice in areas of critical need; amending ss. 458.315, 459.0076, and 464.0121, F.S.; revising the conditions under which the Board of Medicine, the Board of Osteopathic Medicine, and the Board of Nursing, respectively, may issue temporary certificates for practice in areas of critical need; authorizing certificate-holders to continue primary care services after such areas lose their critical need designation under certain circumstances; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 458.315, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

458.315 Temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need.—

(3) The board may issue a temporary certificate under this section subject to the following restrictions:

(c)1. Any certificate issued under this section is valid only so long as one of the following conditions applies:

a. The State Surgeon General determines that the reason for which it was issued remains a critical need to the state; or

b. The certificate was issued for practice in an area of critical need that has since lost its designation and the certificateholder maintains an active primary care treatment relationship in the area with one or more patients. In such case, the certificateholder may continue providing primary care services to patients in such area under the certificate if the board finds that all other requirements are satisfied during its review of the certificateholder.

2. The board shall review each temporary certificateholder at least annually to ascertain that the certificateholder is complying with the minimum requirements of the Medical Practice Act and its adopted rules, as applicable to the certificateholder. If it is determined that the certificateholder is not meeting such minimum requirements, the board must revoke such certificate or impose restrictions or conditions, or both, as a condition of continued practice under the certificate.

Section 2. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 459.0076, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

459.0076 Temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need.—

(3) The board may issue this temporary certificate subject to the following restrictions:

(c)1. Any certificate issued under this section is valid only so long as one of the following conditions applies:

a. The State Surgeon General determines that the reason for which it was issued remains a critical need to the state; or

b. The certificate was issued for practice in an area of critical need that has since lost its designation and the certificateholder maintains an active primary care treatment relationship in the area with one or more patients. In such case, the certificateholder may continue providing primary care services to patients in such area under the certificate if the board finds that all other requirements are satisfied during its review of the certificateholder.

2. The board shall review each temporary certificateholder at least annually to ascertain that the certificateholder is complying with the minimum requirements of the Osteopathic Medical Practice Act and its adopted rules, as applicable to the certificateholder. If it is determined that the certificateholder is not meeting such minimum requirements, the board must revoke such certificate or impose restrictions or conditions, or both, as a condition of continued practice under the certificate.

Section 3. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 464.0121, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

464.0121 Temporary certificate for practice in areas of critical need.—

(3) The board may issue a temporary certificate under this section subject to the following restrictions:

(c)1. Any certificate issued under this section is valid only so long as one of the following conditions applies:

a. The State Surgeon General maintains the determination that the critical need that supported the issuance of the temporary certificate remains a critical need to the state; or

b. The certificate was issued for practice in an area of critical need that has since lost its designation and the certificateholder maintains an active primary care treatment relationship in the area with one or more patients. In such case, the certificateholder may continue providing primary care services to patients in such area under the certificate if the board finds that all other requirements are satisfied during its review of the certificateholder.

2. The board shall review each temporary certificateholder at least annually to ascertain that the certificateholder is complying with the minimum requirements of the Nurse Practice Act and its adopted rules, as applicable to the certificateholder. If it is determined that the certificateholder is not meeting such minimum requirements, the board must

revoke such certificate or impose restrictions or conditions, or both, as a condition of continued practice under the certificate.

Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor May 22, 2026.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 22, 2026.