

HB 683 -- CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR PHYSICIANS

SPONSOR: Koenig

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 15 to 1.

This bill prohibits the State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts within the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration from requiring any form of specialty medical board certification or any maintenance of certification to practice medicine in this state. The state board or any other state agency must not discriminate against physicians who do not maintain specialty medical board certification including recertification.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that continuing medical education is adequate. Board certified physicians have already passed these exams and these national accreditation boards want to be able to have continuous maintenance on their certification. Supporters feel that it is just a way to generate revenue.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Koenig; Helen Gelhot; Lisa Pannett; Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons; and Missouri Academy of Family Physicians.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.