

LFC Requester: _____

AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2025 REGULAR SESSION

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO

AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov and email to billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov

(Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF)

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}

Date Prepared: _____ *Check all that apply:*
Bill Number: HB544 Original Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Rep. Rod Montoya **Agency Name and Code** HCA 630
Short Title: Expedited Licensure for Out-of-State Licenses **Number:** _____
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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		
\$0.0	\$0.0	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		
\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () indicate revenue decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY25	FY26	FY27	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	\$0.0	N/A	N/A

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:
 Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis: House Bill 544 (HB 544) enacts an expedited license for professional and occupational boards. The boards shall grant an expedited license to qualified applicants who are currently licensed in good standing in another state or territory of the United States, the District of Columbia or a foreign country.

Key Provisions

1. Expedited Licensure Mandate

- a. The bill **requires** (rather than allows) boards to grant expedited licenses if applicants meet the outlined criteria.

2. Eligibility Criteria

- a. Applicants must be **licensed in good standing** in another state, U.S. territory, or certain foreign countries.
- b. Must **pay the required fees** to obtain the expedited license.

3. Repeals and Amendments

- a. **Removes discretion** from licensing boards by **replacing "may" with "shall,"** making expedited licensure mandatory.
- b. **Eliminates reciprocal licensure requirements** (e.g., pharmacy licenses no longer need an examination for reciprocity).
- c. Repeals outdated licensing provisions.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None for the HCA

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Potential Quality Control Issues

- Some states may have less stringent licensing standards than New Mexico.
- The bill does not provide a mechanism for reviewing whether another state's standards are equivalent to New Mexico's (beyond referring to Section 61-1-31.1 NMSA 1978).
- The bill removes board discretion in verifying competency beyond good standing in another jurisdiction.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None for the HCA

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

MAD

NM Medicaid enrollment requires the service provider to obtain a license for the location (city/county/state) they will provide the service, however, it must be one of the states or territory of the United States, or the District of Columbia. Therefore, if the service provider is residing in a foreign country and was able to obtain a license, they will not be eligible to enroll with NM Medicaid.

No IT impact.

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None for the HCA

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None for the HCA

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

Many states have **interstate compacts** (e.g., Nurse Licensure Compact, Interstate Medical Licensure Compact) to expedite professional licensing. New Mexico's bill takes a **broader, more universal approach** across multiple professions.

Potential Quality Control Issues

- Some states may have less stringent licensing standards than New Mexico.
- The bill does not provide a mechanism for reviewing whether another state's standards are equivalent to New Mexico's (beyond referring to Section 61-1-31.1 NMSA 1978).
- The bill removes board discretion in verifying competency beyond good standing in another jurisdiction.

ALTERNATIVES

None for the HCA

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

Status Quo

AMENDMENTS