

LFC Requester:	Kelly Klunt
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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: 2/21/2025 *Check all that apply:*
Bill Number: HB479 Original Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor:	<u>Gail Armstrong and Rebecca Dow</u>	Agency Name and Code Number:	<u>New Mexico Medical Board-446</u>
Short Title:	<u>Stopping Non-Physician Health Care Providers using the title "Doctor"</u>	Person Writing Analysis:	<u>Monique Parks, Interim Exec. Director</u>
Requiring		Phone:	<u>505-490-3903</u>
		Email:	<u>moniquem.parks@nm.mb.nm.gov</u>

SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26		

(Parenthesis () indicate expenditure decreases)

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY25	FY26	FY27		

(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						
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(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:

HB479- Amends the Uniform Licensing Act to prohibit non-physician health care providers with a doctoral degree (e.g., clinical psychologists) from using the title of “Doctor” in any advertising or communication in a clinical setting without qualifying the specific profession in which they received their doctoral degree (e.g., Doctor of Psychology); violations would be grounds for disciplinary actions from state licensing boards including denial, suspension or revocation of the provider’s license.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

None for The New Mexico Medical Board

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The NMMB endorses transparency regarding education and training qualifications of healthcare practitioners. Most patients associate the term *doctor* with physicians who are medically trained to diagnose, treat, and manage diseases comprehensively. Limiting the use of "doctor" to MDs and DOs can help reduce confusion about who holds primary responsibility for medical decision-making and patient care. The addition of specific professional designations would aid in transparency for patients and caregivers.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

None for The New Mexico Medical Board

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

None for The New Mexico Medical Board

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

None for The New Mexico Medical Board

TECHNICAL ISSUES

None for The New Mexico Medical Board

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

None for The New Mexico Medical Board

ALTERNATIVES

None for The New Mexico Medical Board

WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL

None for The New Mexico Medical Board

AMENDMENTS

None for The New Mexico Medical Board