To: Attorney General Jeff Landry

 Attn: Department of Justice, Occupational Licensing Review Program

From: Dr. Vincent A. Culotta, Jr.

 Executive Director, Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners

Date: February 19, 2025

Subject: Licensure and Certification - IMLC

The Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners has proposed amendments to LAC 46:XLV.305, 416, 433, 441, 449 & 4005.

To facilitate the Department of Justice’s review of the proposed rule, the Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners provides answers to the following questions.

1. Describe any relevant factual background to the occupational regulation and the purpose of the occupational regulation?

In 2021, the Louisiana legislature passed the Interstate Medical Licensure Compact which provided another path to Louisiana licensure for physicians. Unlike the standard path to licensure, under R.S. 37:1271-1291.1 and the Board’s rules under LAC 46XLV.123 et seq., the Compact, R.S. 37:1310.1, does not require certain information, oaths and/or continuing medical education (CME) from license applicants. It does provide however that professional boards may seek such information from the licensee after application. See, R.S. 37:1310.1, Section (7)(b). Thus, in order for the Board to obtain the same information, oaths and CME regarding IMLC licensees as it already does regarding its “standard path” licensees, the Board has undertaken this rule process.

2. Is the occupational regulation within the scope of the occupational licensing board’s general authority to regulate in a given occupation or industry? If so, identify the law that provides the authority for the rule and describe how the occupational regulation is within the scope.

Yes, these rules we promulgated in accordance with R.S. 37:3001-3014, 37:1270, and 37:1281. The proposed amendments further the LSBME’s goal of opening our doors to more physicians and allowing for more pathways to practice in Louisiana.

3. Check all of the following that apply as reasons the occupational regulation is subject to review

[] Creates a barrier to market competition

[] Fixes prices, limits price competition, or results in high prices for a product or service provided by or to a license holder.

[] Reduces competition or excludes present or potential competitors from the occupation regulated by the board

[] Limits output or supply in this state of any good or service provided by the members of the regulated occupation.

[] Reduces the number of providers that can serve a particular set of customers

[] Other activity (please describe)

4. Identify the clearly articulated state policy (e.g., health, safety, welfare, or consumer protection) in state statute, or any supporting evidence of the harm the action/proposed action is intended to protect against?

These regulations are intended to protect the public’s health and welfare by updating licensing for physicians entering Louisiana’s market through the IMLC, and ensuring the practitioners are kept up to date in their field by updating continuing education requirements.

5. Do any less restrictive alternatives to the occupational regulation exist for addressing the same harm? If so, include a comparison of the occupational regulation to the alternatives and a justification for not pursuing a less restrictive alternative. If no less restrictive alternatives exist, explain why.

 These regulations are the least restrictive.

6. Describe the process that the occupational licensing board followed in developing the proposed rule, including any public hearings held, studies conducted, and data collected or analyzed.

All meetings complied with the Open Meetings Law, offering proper notice, public comment, and records of the meetings. The rule changes then went before the LSBME at a public meeting where the board adopted the proposed rule change.

7. Does the occupational regulation relate to a matter on which there is pending litigation or a final court order?

 No.

8. Please identify the board members voting in favor of this rule, and state whether the member is an active market participant.

The LSBME is composed of the following members: Roderick V. Clark, MD, MBA, Kim S. Sport, JD, Rita Y. Horton, MD, Juzar Ali, MD, Wyche T. Coleman, Jr., MD, Patrick T. O'Neill, MD, James A. Taylor, Jr., MD, Terrie R. Thomas, MD, Leonard Weather, Jr., MD, R.Ph, Cheryl Hayes Williams, MD.

9. Is there anything else that the occupational licensing board would like the Department to know about the proposed rule?