BACKGROUND AND SUMMARY OF PROPOSED RULES

The Michigan Board of Osteopathic Medicine and Surgery, consisting of 11 voting members appointed by the governor and confirmed by the Senate, is authorized pursuant to several sections of the Public Health Code, 1978 PA 368, MCL 333.1101 et seq., to promulgate administrative rules pertaining to and regulating the education, licensure, and professional practices of physicians and surgeons holding the degree of Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.). Many of these rules have not been updated since 1989 and, consequently, reference outdated standards and practices and fail to address modern technological advances affecting the practice of medicine.

2014-001 LR would rescind the entirety of the current rules (see also: 2014-002 LR for rescission of continuing education rules), replacing them with revised and renumbered sections updating numerous regulations of and requirements for the professional practice of osteopathic medicine and the education and licensure of physicians and surgeons holding the degree of Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine (D.O.) in order to protect and promote public health, safety, and welfare.

Most substantially, the revised rules would update education, accreditation, and examination standards; limit the number of times applicants may take exams; alter continuing education credit requirements and add those for pain and symptom management and specialty certifications; establish requirements for the relicensure of physicians after lapses longer than three years; modify procedures for delegating duties to physician assistants and nurse practitioners; and require training in the recognition of the signs of human trafficking.

FISCAL IMPACT OF PROPOSED RULES

The rules added, amended, and rescinded by 2014-001 LR would not have a significant fiscal impact on the Bureau of Professional Licensing; however, the Bureau may incur nominal administrative expenses in implementing the revised relicensure requirements. The licensure and regulation of the professional practice of osteopathic medicine is supported by revenue generated by statutory fees levied on current and prospective D.O.s, which is in excess of expenditures to administer, implement, and enforce such licensure and regulation.

Fiscal Analyst: Paul B.A. Holland