

**ILLINOIS STATE MEDICAL SOCIETY**

**Resolution 11.2021-10  
(A-22)**

Introduced by: Philip Dray, MD, ISMS Member

Subject: Administrative Medical License

Referred to: Council on Education & Health Workforce

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1           Whereas, there are medical physicians and surgeons, MDs and DOs that have not  
2 practiced clinical medicine within the last two years thus have not met the requirements  
3 for professional capacity as required in the Medical Practice Act and may have  
4 additionally not met other requirements for professional capacity as specified in the  
5 Medical Practice Act (MPA); and

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7           Whereas, these physicians have previously held an unrestricted permanent  
8 medical license in the State of Illinois or were eligible at one time in the past, or now,  
9 for a permanent unrestricted medical license by virtue of previously or currently  
10 satisfying all the requirements for licensure as specified in the MPA; and

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12           Whereas, these physicians do not intend to satisfy the requirements for  
13 professional capacity as specified in the MPA or may satisfy the requirements of the  
14 MPA but do not intend to return to clinical practice; and

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16           Whereas, those physicians that are not eligible under the MPA for an unrestricted  
17 medical license because they do not meet the current requirements for professional  
18 capacity and those select individuals that do meet the requirements for professional  
19 capacity, wish to practice only administrative medicine; and

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21           Whereas, these physicians are requesting a medical license in the State of Illinois  
22 for the purpose of performing their administrative duties within a healthcare or medical  
23 business or related organization, and

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25           Whereas, other States, including Tennessee, Iowa and Texas have a category of  
26 Administrative license; and

27           Whereas, the reason for the need for an Illinois medical license is that a medical  
28 license is required as a prerequisite qualification with regard to the physician's current  
29 administrative role within a healthcare or medical business or related organization; and  
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31           Whereas, these physicians will contribute to the continued development of  
32 quality healthcare and effective health care business management and efficient business  
33 operation in Illinois in their administrative and management roles; and  
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35           Whereas, ISMS has approved resolutions to add other subcategories of medical  
36 licensure for retired physicians and IMGs; and  
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38           Whereas, the practice of administrative medicine is limited and does not permit  
39 clinical practice or direct patient care of any type; therefore, be it  
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41           RESOLVED, that the ISMS support legislation to amend the Medical Practice  
42 Act to include the category of an Administrative Medical License for physicians who  
43 wish to perform solely administrative medicine; and be it further  
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45           RESOLVED, that a category of Administrative Medical License be available in  
46 the Medical Practice Act to physicians and surgeons that have previously held an  
47 unrestricted licensed in the State of Illinois or were previously or now eligible for an  
48 unrestricted State of Illinois medical license; and be it further  
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50           RESOLVED, that the license is limited to administrative and management  
51 actions of policy, business oversight and leadership management decisions and does not  
52 allow direct patient care or management and does not allow the practice of clinical  
53 medicine, nor the treating, diagnosing, operating or the prescription of drugs, nor the  
54 delegation of medical acts or prescriptive authority; and be it further  
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56           RESOLVED, that a physician with an administrative medicine license may  
57 participate and advise organizations regarding quality, research, medical payments and  
58 other administrative health care related policy matters.

**Fiscal Note:**

n/a

**Existing ISMS policy and action related to this issue:**

It is the policy of ISMS to require, either by regulation or legislation, that all physicians authorizing or reviewing care of patients in Illinois be licensed to practice medicine in all its branches in Illinois. (HOD 1993)

A “physician” (doctors of medicine or doctors of osteopathy) is defined as one who by education, training, experience, and licensure is able to practice medicine in all of its branches. ... (HOD 1987 Amended)

The title “Doctor,” in a medical setting, applies only to physicians licensed to practice medicine in all its branches, dentists and podiatrists; the title “Resident” applies only to individuals enrolled in physician, dentist or podiatrist training programs; and the title “Residency” applies only to physician, dentist or podiatrist training programs. (HOD 2008; Reaffirmed 2015)

House of Delegates adopted Resolution C310 (A-13), which called for ISMS to explore the possibility of introducing legislation to create a medical licensure category for retired physicians, with a waived or reduced licensure fee, that will allow them to provide uncompensated care. (HOD 2013)

House of Delegates adopted as amended Resolution C318 (A-18), Temporary Licensure Category for Graduates of International Medical Schools, which states: RESOLVED, that ISMS explore the possibility of creating a category of Illinois Medical Licensure which would allow International Medical Graduates who have completed Residencies and /or fellowship training, have ample patient care experience in their native countries, and have passed all Step 1 and Step 2 USMLE pre-requisites to provide primary care in rural and underserved Illinois locations under supervision, association or collaboration arrangements; and be it further RESOLVED, that the supervisory, financial, liability, documentation, evaluation and other functional aspects of such a program be studied, planned and directed by a group which involves relevant stakeholders, including patients, insurers, IMGs and physician professional associations. (HOD 2018)