



AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC ASSOCIATION

TREATING OUR FAMILY AND YOURS



February 7, 2017

The Honorable Kelly Fenton
Minnesota State House of Representatives
525 State Office Building
100 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard
Saint Paul, Minnesota 55155

Dear Representative Fenton:

The American Osteopathic Association (AOA) and the Minnesota Osteopathic Medical Society (MOMS) are writing to request an amendment to HF 345. This bill creates a Palliative Care Advisory Committee, and includes representation for a physician certified by the American Board of Hospice and Palliative Medicine. The State of Minnesota recognizes both types of licensed physicians, allopathic (MD) and osteopathic (DO), as equal. As written, the language in this bill fails to recognize equivalent board certification for DOs offered by the AOA. The AOA and MOMS request that this bill be amended to provide equal recognition for osteopathic physicians who hold subspecialty certification in Hospice and Palliative Medicine from an AOA member board.

The AOA represents nearly 130,000 DOs and osteopathic medical students, promotes public health, encourages scientific research, serves as the primary certifying body for DOs, is the accrediting agency for osteopathic medical schools, and has federal authority to accredit hospitals and other health care facilities. More information on DOs/osteopathic medicine can be found at www.osteopathic.org. MOMS is a professional medical organization that represents over 800 osteopathic physicians in Minnesota.

The AOA and MOMS respectfully request the following amendment:

Sec 144.059 (1)(b) “(1) two physicians of which one is certified by the American Board of Hospice and Palliative Medicine **or holds a subspecialty certification or a Certificate of Added Qualification in Hospice and Palliative Medicine from an American Osteopathic Association member board;**”

The AOA and MOMS appreciate your consideration of our request to amend HF 345.

Should you need any additional information, please feel free to contact Nicholas Schilligo, AOA's Associate Vice President for State Government Affairs, at nschilligo@osteopathic.org or (800) 621-1773, ext. 8185.

Sincerely,

Boyd R. Buser, DO
President, AOA

Abe Hammell, DO
President, MOMS

The Honorable Kelly Fenton

February 7, 2017

Page 2

CC: Mark A. Baker, DO, AOA President-elect
William J. Burke, DO, Chair, AOA Department of Governmental Affairs
Richard Thacker, DO, Chair, AOA Bureau of State Government Affairs
Adrienne White-Faines, MPA, AOA Chief Executive Officer
Laura Wooster, Senior Vice President, AOA Public Policy
Nicholas Schilligo, MS, Associate Vice President, AOA State Government Affairs
Colleen Jensen, Executive Director, MOMS