



PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY  
OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

**DATE:** June 9, 2020

**TO:** Honorable members of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives

**FROM:** Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP)

**RE:** Support H.B. 1947, International Medical Graduate requirements

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On behalf of the Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP) and our more than 5,500 physician, resident, and student members across the Commonwealth, we write in support of House Bill 1947, which would bring licensing requirements for international medical graduates in line with those for U.S. and Canadian medical graduates.

International medical graduates play a vital role in our country's health care delivery system and are held to the same educational standards as those who matriculate from medical schools in the United States and Canada.

Currently, graduates of international medical schools must wait until their third year of residency is complete in order to apply for an unrestricted license to practice medicine in Pennsylvania, whereas graduates of U.S. and Canadian medical schools need only complete two years of residency before being permitted to apply for the same license. This limits the number of physicians available to independently treat patients and delays the process by which international medical graduates can be credentialed by health insurance companies.

We urge your support of H.B. 1947 in order to help increase the number of licensed physicians available to treat patients in the Commonwealth.

Thank you for your consideration.