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## DIGEST

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Whitney

HB No. 672

**Abstract:** Provides for limited exemptions to state licensure requirements for visiting physicians who travel to La. with a sports team or at the invitation of the U.S. Olympic Committee for committee-sanctioned events.

Proposed law requires that the La. State Board of Medical Examiners ("board") exempt from state licensure requirements visiting physicians practicing medicine in this state if all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) The physician has an oral or written agreement with a sports team to provide general or emergency medical care to the team members, coaching staff, and families traveling with the team for a specific sporting event to take place in this state.
- (2) The physician does not provide care or consultation to any person residing in this state, other than to the team members, coaching staff, and families described in present law.

Proposed law provides that the exemption shall remain in force while the physician is traveling with the team, but shall be no longer than 10 days per individual sporting event. Provides that the board may grant a physician additional time for exemption of up to 20 additional days per sporting event, upon prior request by the physician; but that the total number of days of exemption may not exceed 30 days per sporting event.

Proposed law provides that a physician who is exempt from licensure requirements pursuant to the provisions of proposed law is specifically prohibited from practicing medicine at any healthcare clinic or facility in this state, including an acute care facility.

Proposed law authorizes the board to exempt a physician who lawfully practices medicine in another state or country from state licensure requirements while the physician is practicing medicine in this state if all of the following conditions are met:

- (1) The physician has been invited by the U.S. Olympic Committee to provide medical services at one or more training sites designated by the olympic training center, or to provide medical services at an event in La. sanctioned by the committee.
- (2) The U.S. Olympic Committee certifies to the board the name of the physician, the state or country of the physician's licensure, and the dates within which the physician has been invited to provide medical services.

- (3) The physician's practice is limited to that required by the U.S. Olympic Committee, and such medical services requested by the committee are within the physician's area of competence and are only provided to athletes or team personnel registered to train at the olympic training center or registered to compete in an event conducted under the sanction of the committee.

Proposed law provides that the exemption provided in proposed law shall remain in force while the holder is providing medical services at the invitation of the U.S. Olympic Committee and only during the time certified to the board, but in no event longer than 90 days.

Proposed law provides that the team manager who is responsible for any team member participating in events at the invitation of the U.S. Olympic Committee in La. may give consent to the furnishing of hospital, medical, and surgical care to a minor who is a team member, and that consent shall not be subject to disaffirmance because of minority. Provides further that the consent of a parent of that person shall not be necessary in order to authorize hospital, medical, and surgical care.

(Adds R.S. 37:1276.2)