The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Brandi Cannon.

## DIGEST 2022 Regular Session

Peacock

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that the La. State Board of Medical Examiners (LSBME) may certify an individual to practice medicine as a bridge year graduate physician if the individual is a citizen of the United States or a legal resident alien who graduated from an accredited Louisiana medical school and who applied to, but was not accepted into, an accredited medical residency training program for the first year following medical school graduation.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides for the qualifications for certification as a bridge year graduate physician. Further provides for the renewal and revocation of the certification.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that a bridge year graduate physician shall only practice medicine in rural or underserved areas and in accordance with a collaborative practice agreement with a qualified board-certified family physician or internist licensed by the LSBME. Further provides for the required content of a collaborative practice agreement, including prescriptive authority delegated to the bridge year graduate physician.

<u>Proposed law</u> provides that, after January 1, 2023, covered healthcare services that are within a bridge year graduate physician's lawful scope of practice shall be reimbursed, whether the services are performed by a physician or a bridge year graduate physician. Further provides that the reimbursement to a bridge year graduate physician shall not be less than the reasonable and customary amount of reimbursement which a licensed physician receives for an intermediate office visit or a primary care physician receives for the same services.

Proposed law terminates January 1, 2026.

Effective August 1, 2022.

SB 439 Engrossed

(Amends R.S. 37:1271(A) and 1285(A)(intro para); adds R.S. 22:1021.1 and R.S. 37:1310.11-1310.15)

## Summary of Amendments Adopted by Senate

## <u>Committee Amendments Proposed by Senate Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill</u>

- 1. Changes the occupational title <u>from</u> a licensed assistant physician <u>to</u> a certified bridge year graduate physician.
- 2. Provides for certification of bridge year graduate physicians.
- 3. Limits practice to rural or underserved areas.
- 4. Provides for teaching physicians.
- 5. Provides for a sunset date.