

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY SEPTEMBER 1, 2015

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY AUGUST 19, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 97

**Introduced by Assembly Member Bonilla
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Rodriguez)
(Coauthors: Senators Hernandez and Leyva)**

July 16, 2015

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 97—Relative to medicine.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 97, as amended, Bonilla. Medical training: osteopathic students.

~~This measure would~~ *measure, among other things, would* urge both private and public medical training institutions in the state to provide equal access to osteopathic and allopathic students to apply to training programs, would urge osteopathic medical schools, allopathic medical schools, and their training institutions to build on current successes of working toward greater collaboration and coordination of education and training for California's future physicians, and would urge efforts by training institutions and allopathic and osteopathic medical schools to work toward greater acceptance and integration of osteopathic and allopathic students.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, California has a significant shortage and inequitable
- 2 distribution of physicians throughout the state due to the aging
- 3 population, current population growth, and the increasing number
- 4 of insured; and

1 WHEREAS, According to a study by the Robert Graham Center
2 in 2013, it was estimated that the state would need 8,243 more
3 primary care physicians by 2030, a ~~32-~~ 32-percent increase of its
4 current workforce; and

5 WHEREAS, The state's ability to meet the need for primary
6 care osteopathic physicians (DOs) and allopathic physicians (*MDs*)
7 is directly affected by the number of medical residency slots
8 available in physician training programs across the state, and the
9 current ~~amount~~ *number* of graduate medical education slots must
10 be increased substantially; and

11 WHEREAS, DOs are one of the fastest growing segments of
12 health care professionals in the United States. By 2016, more than
13 100,000 DOs are expected to be in active medical practice; and

14 WHEREAS, Approximately 60 percent of practicing DOs
15 specialize in primary care fields such as family medicine, internal
16 medicine, and pediatrics, and many DOs fill a critical need by
17 practicing in rural and other medically underserved areas; and

18 WHEREAS, Beginning in 2020, osteopathic (DO) and allopathic
19 (MD) residency programs will be overseen by a single unified
20 accrediting body; and

21 WHEREAS, Quality medical training for DO and MD students
22 is critical to their success as fully trained and licensed ~~physicians;~~
23 *physicians, and all medical schools should provide the support*
24 *necessary for their students to receive the best possible medical*
25 *training;* and

26 WHEREAS, Many public and private institutions have provided
27 equal access to the application process for their medical training
28 programs by all students and physicians, and have trained
29 exemplary DO and MD students by choosing those candidates
30 who best suit their programs; and

31 *WHEREAS, In many areas of the state there are outstanding*
32 *examples of medical training programs that have been integrated*
33 *effectively and are providing DO and MD students with exceptional*
34 *training opportunities;* and

35 WHEREAS, Section 2064.2 of the Business and Professions
36 Code states that no medical school or clinical training program
37 shall deny access to elective clerkships or preceptorships in any
38 medical school or clinical training program in this state solely on
39 the basis that a student is enrolled in an DO medical school; and

1 WHEREAS, Section 2453 of the Business and Professions Code
2 states that it is the policy of the state that holders of MD degrees
3 and DO degrees shall be accorded equal professional status and
4 privileges as licensed physicians and surgeons; now, therefore, be
5 it

6 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
7 *thereof concurring,* That the Legislature urges both private and
8 public medical training institutions in the state to provide equal
9 access to DO and MD students to apply to training programs while
10 still maintaining the integrity and competitiveness of their
11 application process and the need to first serve enrolled students;
12 and be it further

13 *Resolved,* That the Legislature urges DO medical schools, MD
14 medical schools, and ~~their~~ training institutions to build on current
15 successes of working toward greater collaboration and coordination
16 of education and training for California's future physicians *and*
17 *for these medical schools to develop a plan to adequately support*
18 *medical training for their students and create positive partnerships*
19 *with medical training programs that are open to both DO and MD*
20 *students and graduates;* and be it further

21 *Resolved,* That the Legislature urges efforts by training
22 institutions and ~~MD and DO~~ DO and MD medical schools to work
23 toward greater acceptance and integration of DO and MD students
24 in their medical training programs; and be it further

25 *Resolved,* That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
26 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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