

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR  
SENATE MEMORIAL 133

**53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017**

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THAT THE NEW MEXICO MEDICAL BOARD AND THE BOARD OF  
OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS MEET TO DISCUSS THE  
PROS AND CONS OF MERGING THE BOARD OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE AND  
THE NEW MEXICO MEDICAL BOARD.

WHEREAS, allopathic and osteopathic physicians have  
identical scopes of practice under New Mexico law, while there  
are differences in training between the two practices of  
medicine; and

WHEREAS, osteopathic physicians spend more than four  
hundred hours during their four years of medical school  
learning osteopathic principles and osteopathic manipulative  
medical treatments; and

WHEREAS, osteopathic physicians and physician assistants  
who are supervised by osteopathic physicians are currently

.208183.1

underscored material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 licensed by the board of osteopathic medicine, which is  
2 administratively attached to the regulation and licensing  
3 department; and

4 WHEREAS, allopathic physicians and physician assistants  
5 who are supervised by allopathic physicians are currently  
6 licensed by the New Mexico medical board, which operates as an  
7 independent agency; and

8 WHEREAS, both osteopathic and allopathic physicians are  
9 allowed to supervise physician assistants; and

10 WHEREAS, having a streamlined process where physician  
11 assistants can submit one application for physician oversight  
12 would be beneficial to these important allied health providers;

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE  
14 OF NEW MEXICO that the New Mexico medical board and the board  
15 of osteopathic medicine be requested to convene a meeting of  
16 the directors of both boards during the 2017 interim to  
17 determine, with input from the superintendent of regulation and  
18 licensing and representatives of the New Mexico osteopathic  
19 medical association, the Burrell college of osteopathic  
20 medicine, the New Mexico medical society and the New Mexico  
21 academy of physician assistants, if there is a need for the  
22 merging of the New Mexico medical board and the osteopathic  
23 board of medicine; and

24 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that relevant executive branch  
25 agencies, including the regulation and licensing department, be

1 requested to freely share any information that may assist in  
2 the process of determining whether there is a need to merge the  
3 New Mexico medical board and the osteopathic board of medicine;  
4 and

5 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the New Mexico medical board  
6 and the board of osteopathic medicine be requested to report to  
7 the interim legislative health and human services committee, by  
8 November 1, 2017, their findings and recommendations pursuant  
9 to their discussions with each other and stakeholder  
10 organizations as to whether legislation to merge the board of  
11 osteopathic medicine with the New Mexico medical board is  
12 needed; and

13 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that if the New Mexico medical  
14 board and the board of osteopathic medicine are merged, the new  
15 board be named the New Mexico physician licensing board; and

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
17 transmitted to the executive director of the New Mexico medical  
18 board, the chair of the board of osteopathic medicine, the  
19 superintendent of regulation and licensing, the executive  
20 director of the New Mexico osteopathic medical association, the  
21 executive director of the New Mexico medical society, the  
22 president of the New Mexico academy of physician assistants and  
23 the chair of the interim legislative health and human services  
24 committee.