From: "Richard Stull" <RStull@ipcm.com>
To: "Steve Holloway" <slhollow@smtpgate.dphe.state.co.us>
Date: 3/19/2009 4:29 PM
Subject: FW: State Medical Licensing Act

Steve:

Here is the e-mail I sent to Representative McGihon concerning the licensing issue. The simple issue is that with the J-1 candidates, State, Federal approval and hospital privileging are all linked together. Most importantly is the fact that hospitals will not grant privileges until the individual has a state license. With the current timetable and law, a resident (and I think it is just an IMG) cannot meet the July schedule. They can meet the deadline of May 29, 2009 for the application submission but cannot meet the June 19, 2009 deadline for all document submission in order to be reviewed at the July 9, 2009 board meeting. The next board meeting is August 19, 2009. There are two additional issues related to this, one being that the resident is basically unemployed starting July 1st and two, time is of the essence with the immigration laws and the individual starting work. The medical license act sunsets in 2010 and review work has already started. In fact, Brian Tobias, an analyst with the Department of Regulatory Agencies has met with me to gather information on this issue.

I am one that always looks for easy solutions. If the board would accept for review purposes a letter from the Director of a residency program that Dr. X is scheduled to complete his residency on June 30th that would give the resident a week to submit the actual diploma or the board could act on the application subject to receipt of the diploma. This would give the resident more than a month's head start as for 2009 the next board meeting isn't until August 19, 2009.

Please let me know if there is any additional information I could provide Thank you for your assistance.

Richard

Richard J. Stull, FACHE

Executive Director

IPC The Hospitalist Company

90 Madison St. Suite 504

Denver, Colorado 80206

Phone 720-524-1550

Fax 720-524-1551

E-mail rstull@ipcm.com

From: Richard Stull
Sent: Wednesday, November 05, 2008 4:14 PM
To: 'anne.mcgihon.house@state.co.us'
Subject: State Medical Licensing Act

Representative McGihon:

My name is Richard Stull and I am the Executive Director for IPC of Colorado, The Hospitalist Company. IPC is the largest provider of Hospitalist physicians in the United States with approximately 1000 physicians in 18 states. Currently we have physicians on staff at Swedish Medical Center and Porter Medical Center here in Denver and St. Mary-Corwin Medical Center and Parkview Medical Center in Pueblo. Pueblo County qualifies as a federally underserved designation. I was referred to you by William Jessee, MD, CEO for the Medical Group Management Association.

Problem:

Currently the State Medical Licensing Act requires a medical resident to have completed their residency prior to receiving a State of Colorado medical license. Because of the timetable for the application, document deadline and meeting date a resident finishing their residency on June 30, 2009 cannot meet the requirements for the July 9, 2009 meeting and therefore has to wait until August 19, 2009 to be reviewed by the Board of Medical Examiners. I do understand this is a volunteer board.

Issues:

A. It takes approximately two months for a physician to apply and receive hospital medical staff privileges. In all cases, the hospitals will not process the application until the individual has a state license.

B. For the most part a resident then is without income from June 30th to October.

C. It is projected that Colorado will experience a shortage of primary care physicians due to the current average age of our medical community.

D. In certain areas of the state that are federally mandated underserved areas (Pueblo), the problem is exacerbated when dealing with the state and United States Customs and Immigration for J-1 visa holders. The residents generally file for an extension of their visa to take the Internal Medicine and Family Medicine boards and then are on a strict timetable for when they have to be working. In a recent situation with one of our doctors our immigration attorneys filed in a timely manner and the doctor was finally approved on October 27th. Fortunately we had the ability to advance him his sign on bonus and additional funds.

Solution for consideration:

The State medical licensing act sunsets in 2010. I have been advised by the Board of Medical Examiners that a Sunset Review Committee will be appointed in 2009 to look at this act. There are a number of states (Arizona for one) that issue a provisional license which would alleviate the above referenced problems. Adding this to the state law or allowing the applicant to be reviewed prior to finishing their residency (actual license would not be issued until proof of the completion of the residency) would help to solve these issues.

If you would like further information or if have the time to meet I would be available at any time. I would appreciate any comments or suggestion you might have on this issue.

Richard Stull

Richard J. Stull, FACHE

Executive Director

IPC The Hospitalist Company

90 Madison St. Suite 504

Denver, Colorado 80206

Phone 720-524-1550

Fax 720-524-1551

E-mail rstull@ipcm.com