

**As Introduced**

**128th General Assembly  
Regular Session  
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**S. B. No. 158**

**Senator Miller, R.**

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**A B I L L**

To enact section 4743.04 of the Revised Code to 1  
require certain health care professionals to 2  
complete instruction in cultural competency. 3

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 4743.04 of the Revised Code be 4  
enacted to read as follows: 5

**Sec. 4743.04.** (A) As used in this section: 6

(1) "Health care professional" means all of the following: 7

(a) A dentist licensed by the state dental board under 8  
Chapter 4715. of the Revised Code; 9

(b) A registered nurse or licensed practical nurse licensed 10  
by the board of nursing under Chapter 4723. of the Revised Code; 11

(c) An optometrist licensed by the state board of optometry 12  
under Chapter 4725. of the Revised Code; 13

(d) A pharmacist licensed by the state board of pharmacy 14  
under Chapter 4729. of the Revised Code; 15

(e) A physician authorized to practice medicine and surgery 16  
or osteopathic medicine and surgery by the state medical board 17  
under Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code; 18

(f) An ophthalmologist authorized to practice medicine and surgery by the state medical board under Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code; 19  
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(g) A psychologist licensed by the state board of psychology under Chapter 4732. of the Revised Code; 22  
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(h) An independent social worker, social worker, or social work assistant, licensed or registered by the counselor, social worker, and marriage and family therapist board under Chapter 4757. of the Revised Code. 24  
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(2) "State board" means the state dental board, the board of nursing, the state board of optometry, the state board of pharmacy, the state medical board, the state board of psychology, and the counselor, social worker, and marriage and family therapist board. 28  
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(B) In order to be eligible to receive or renew licensure, certification, or registration, as applicable, each health care professional shall submit evidence to the appropriate state board that the professional has successfully completed the board's requirements for instruction or continuing education in cultural competency, as those requirements are established by the board in rules adopted under division (C) of this section, except when the board has granted the health care professional a waiver of the board's requirements for instruction or continuing education in cultural competency. 33  
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(C) Each state board shall adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to establish all of the following: 43  
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(1) The number of hours of instruction in cultural competency an applicant must complete to be eligible to receive licensure, certification, or registration by that board; 46  
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(2) The number of hours of continuing education in cultural 49

competency required for renewal of a license, certificate, or 50  
registration by that board; 51

(3) The criteria the board will consider in deciding whether 52  
to grant a waiver of the requirement to complete instruction or 53  
continuing education in cultural competency, including 54  
demonstration to the board's satisfaction that the applicant has 55  
attained experience that is substantially equivalent to the 56  
required number of hours of instruction or continuing education in 57  
cultural competency. 58

(D) In developing the rules described in division (C) of this 59  
section, each board shall consider the problems of race and 60  
gender-based disparities in health care treatment decisions and 61  
consult with one or more professionally relevant and nationally 62  
recognized organizations, or similar entities, that review the 63  
curricula offered by the applicable health care professional 64  
schools, colleges, and other educational institutions. 65

(E) Not later than ninety days after the effective date of 66  
this section, each state board shall approve one or more 67  
continuing education courses addressing cultural competency in 68  
health care treatment. A board may approve courses that are 69  
included within continuing education programs certified by 70  
professional associations or similar entities. The course or 71  
courses shall include instruction in addressing the problems of 72  
race and gender-based disparities in health care treatment 73  
decisions. 74