

As Introduced

**131st General Assembly
Regular Session
2015-2016**

S. B. No. 33

Senator Tavares

A BILL

To enact section 4743.08 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 4743.08 of the Revised Code be 4
enacted to read as follows: 5

Sec. 4743.08. (A) As used in this section: 6

(1) "Applicant" means an individual who applies for 7
licensure, certification, or registration, as applicable, to 8
practice as a health care professional. 9

(2) "Health care professional" means all of the following: 10

(a) A dentist licensed by the state dental board under 11
Chapter 4715. of the Revised Code; 12

(b) A registered nurse or licensed practical nurse 13
licensed by the board of nursing under Chapter 4723. of the 14
Revised Code; 15

(c) An optometrist licensed by the state board of 16
optometry under Chapter 4725. of the Revised Code; 17

(d) A pharmacist licensed by the state board of pharmacy 18
under Chapter 4729. of the Revised Code; 19

(e) A physician authorized to practice medicine and 20
surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery by the state medical 21
board under Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code; 22

(f) A psychologist licensed by the state board of 23
psychology under Chapter 4732. of the Revised Code; 24

(g) An independent social worker, social worker, or social 25
work assistant licensed or registered by the counselor, social 26
worker, and marriage and family therapist board under Chapter 27
4757. of the Revised Code. 28

(3) "State board" means the state dental board, the board 29
of nursing, the state board of optometry, the state board of 30
pharmacy, the state medical board, the state board of 31
psychology, or the counselor, social worker, and marriage and 32
family therapist board. 33

(B) Except as provided in division (C) of this section, to 34
be eligible to receive or renew licensure, certification, or 35
registration, as applicable, each applicant or health care 36
professional shall submit to the appropriate state board 37
evidence that the applicant or professional has successfully 38
completed the board's requirements for instruction or continuing 39
education in cultural competency, as those requirements are 40
established by the board in rules adopted under division (D) of 41
this section. 42

(C) A state board may grant an applicant or health care 43
professional a waiver of the board's requirements for 44
instruction or continuing education in cultural competency if 45
the applicant or professional meets the criteria established by 46

the board in rules adopted under division (D) of this section. 47

(D) In accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, 48
each state board shall adopt rules that establish all of the 49
following: 50

(1) The number of hours of instruction in cultural 51
competency an applicant must complete to be eligible to receive 52
licensure, certification, or registration from the board; 53

(2) The number of hours of continuing education in 54
cultural competency required for renewal of licensure, 55
certification, or registration by the board; 56

(3) The criteria that will be considered by the board in 57
deciding whether to grant an applicant or health care 58
professional a waiver of the requirement to complete instruction 59
or continuing education in cultural competency, including 60
demonstration to the board's satisfaction that the applicant or 61
professional has attained experience that is substantially 62
equivalent to the required number of hours of instruction or 63
continuing education in cultural competency. 64

(E) In developing the rules described in division (D) of 65
this section, each state board shall consider the problems of 66
race and gender-based disparities in health care treatment 67
decisions and consult with one or more professionally relevant 68
and nationally recognized organizations, or similar entities, 69
that review the curricula offered by the applicable health care 70
professional schools, colleges, and other educational 71
institutions. 72

(F) Not later than ninety days after the effective date of 73
this section, each state board shall approve one or more 74
continuing education courses addressing cultural competency in 75

health care treatment. To be approved, a course must include 76
instruction in addressing the problems of race and gender-based 77
disparities in health care treatment decisions. The state board 78
may approve courses that are included within continuing 79
education programs certified by professional associations or 80
similar entities. 81