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RE: SUPPORT HB 273

Dear Legislator -

I write this letter in regards to the flawed system owned by the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) called Maintenance of Certification (MOC). They insist that their for profit system is necessary to assure physician competency. They also hinder a physician's right to earn a living without financially contributing to their proprietary organization.

ABMS MOC product replicates Continuous Medical Education we already are required to do in order to maintain our license to practice in each state. It also forces us to comply with an unnecessary, expensive, and repetitive computer-testing exercise. In practice, I have many resources at my fingertips which I use often for patient cases which I do not encounter often. Never in practice have I been put in a situation where I had to recall trivial details on a timed basis.

Furthermore, their system is impractical for us physicians as many of our practices are tailored to certain patient populations and problem lists. In addition, their mandatory and cumbersome format takes valuable time away from us treating people that need help.

Finally, ABMS has been involved with highly irregular financial dealings, including falsifying tax forms. Yet, they are earning millions in profit year after year. If their true priority was ensuring well informed doctors, they would not charge us well above the average rate that other CME companies do. They can get away with it because we are handcuffed to them to earn a living.

For these reasons I would ask that you strongly reject the discrimination of physicians that choose to continue their medical education according to Ohio's requirements, free of dependence on the ABMS.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Adil Jaffer MD'. The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Adil Jaffer MD