

Title: Inform J-1 Visa Waiver Applicants of Status on Rolling Basis or Within Four Weeks of Application Deadline

Introduced by: Allen C.D. Brown, MD, for the International Medical Graduates Section

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Referred to: Reference Committee E

House Action: Adopted

Whereas, the J-1 Visa Waiver program for the State of Michigan, overseen by the Michigan Department of Community Health, has been receiving an increasing number of J-1 Visa Waiver applications, and

Whereas, the allocated number of sponsored slots is a maximum of 30 with a application deadline of November 1 of the year prior, and

Whereas, the state received a record number of applications, 56 for 2013, resulting in 26 denials of physician state positions not being accepted, and

Whereas, applicants are not informed of J-1 Visa Waiver denial until the following February, thus limiting the applicants' further nationwide search for a position, and

Whereas, a majority of states inform the applicants of their J-1 Visa Waiver quota completion on a rolling basis or within four weeks of application deadline, and

Whereas, more timely notification of a denial would allow physicians requiring a J-1 Visa Waiver to search out and obtain a new position in another state in a more timely manner in order to not risk being forced back to the country in which they had trained; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS seek legislation or a change in regulations to require the Michigan Department of Community Health to begin a rolling application system or do an immediate screening of J-1 Visa Waiver applications to inform applicants of their status within four weeks of the application deadline.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE