

STATE OF NEW JERSEY,
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT.

EXECUTIVE ORDER No. 58

WHEREAS, The adoption by Congress of Federal legislation, popularly referred to as the "Health Professions Education Assistance Act," (P. L. 94-484), hereinafter referred to as the Federal Act, will sharply curtail the immigration of foreign nationals, trained as physicians, hereinafter referred to as FMG's, to serve in residency training programs in New Jersey; and,

WHEREAS, 55% of the approximately 1,600 residency training positions in New Jersey hospitals are filled by FMG's, in contrast to a national percentage of 29%; and

WHEREAS, It is foreseeable that there exists an impending crisis of major proportions for New Jersey hospitals, which will find themselves suddenly without sufficient house staff to provide needed patient services; and

WHEREAS, Other states will face similar crises so that New Jersey cannot hope to compensate for the loss of FMG's by resorting to physicians from other states, and may, in fact, lose a greater percentage of its graduates from the College of Medicine and Dentistry to other states because of this impending crisis; and

WHEREAS, The decrease in available hospital physicians will almost certainly lead to a reduction in health manpower statewide;

Now, THEREFORE, it is Ordered:

1. That there be created a Commission on Professional Health Services, hereinafter referred to as the "Commission."

2. (a) The Commission shall consist of five members to be appointed by the Governor to serve at the pleasure of the Governor.

(b) The members shall be individuals broadly representative of the citizens of this State who will be affected by the impending reduction in the availability of FMG's.

(c) The Governor shall appoint from among those named to the Commission a chairperson to serve as such at the pleasure of the Governor.

3. The Commission shall explore and evaluate all feasible means of dealing with the crisis caused by the impending unavailability of FMG's, including but not limited to:

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- (a) Increased utilization of services provided by existing health care professionals;
- (b) Development of new types of health care professional roles;
- (c) Retention of a greater number of graduates from the College of Medicine and Dentistry in New Jersey;
- (d) Providing more attractive opportunities for out-of-state medical school graduates to settle in New Jersey; and
- (e) Review of existing prerequisites to licensure and hospital residency in New Jersey.

4. The Commission may call upon any of the State departments for such assistance as may be required from such departments, and, in particular, from the Departments of Health and Higher Education. The Commission may also call upon the assistance of the College of Medicine and Dentistry.

5. In carrying out its study, the Commission shall seek the advice and recommendations of the following groups and shall consider such advice and recommendations in preparing its final report:

- (a) The New Jersey Medical Society;
- (b) The New Jersey Osteopathic Society;
- (c) The New Jersey Hospital Association;
- (d) The State Nurses Association;
- (e) The State Health Coordinating Council;
- (f) Any other groups which may provide health services in this State and which, in the judgment of the Commission, may be affected by the crisis caused by the impending unavailability of FMG's and by the solutions offered by this Commission to meet this crisis.

6. The Commission shall issue an interim report no later than December 15, 1977, with its recommendations and with such draft legislation as it may propose.

7. This Order shall take effect immediately.

Given, under my hand and seal this 14th day of
[SEAL] July, in the year of Our Lord, one thousand nine hundred
and seventy-seven of the Independence of the United
States, the two hundredth and second.

/s/ BRENDAN BYRNE,
Governor.

Attest:

/s/ JOHN J. DEGNAN,
Executive Secretary to the Governor.