

HB 489 -- DO NO HARM ACT

SPONSOR: Baker

This bill establishes the "Do No Harm Act" and provides terms and definitions relating to "academic standards", "health care related academic programs", "medical institutions of higher education" and "Diversity-Equity-Inclusion" or "DEI" among others.

CERTIFICATION AN TRANSPARENCY (Section 191.1780)

The bill requires medical institutions of higher education to submit an annual certification by December 31st to the State Board of Registration for Healing Arts, within the Department of Commerce and Insurance, and the coordinating Board of Higher Education, within the Department of Higher Education, that the institution does not require applicants or students to subscribe to DEI ideologies.

This bill requires medical institutions of higher education to publish titles and syllabi for all mandatory courses, seminars, classes and trainings on an public online database, and prohibits institutions from conducting DEI audits or hiring DEI consultants.

ASSESSMENTS AND STANDARDS (Section 191.1785)

The bill requires medical institutions of higher education to require applicants to complete a standardized admissions test and outlines academic standards for health care related courses of study, as specified in the bill. If a medical institution of higher education wants to alter the standards for admissions, the new standards must be submitted to either chamber of the General Assembly and shall not be effective until at least 60 days have passed during which a joint resolution of disapproval may be passed by both chambers and approved by the Governor to invalidate any such submitted standards.

HEALTH CARE-RELATED DEI PROVISIONS (191.1790-191.1810)

The bill restricts health care-related professional licensing boards from any having any requirements for obtaining or renewing licenses be associated with DEI related materials or programs. State-required health care-related professional certifications shall not use DEI material or require DEI training as part of the certification process. Such boards and organizations are prohibited from conducting DEI audits or hiring DEI consultants.

Health care providers and medical institutions of higher education are prohibited from receiving state contracts or grants without

certifying that the provider or institution will not require specified individuals from subscribing to, studying, or receiving instruction on DEI material. Such providers and institutions must submit annual certification attesting to their compliance.

All state entities applying for any federal health care related grant relating to DEI shall publish on a public website all materials, requirements, and instructions relating to the grant application along with a copy of the grant proposal to the State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts and to the members of the House and Senate Committees on Health Policy.

The bill provides any aggrieved person a cause of action for any violations of these sections to include declaratory and injunctive relief, damages of at least \$100,000 against the health care provider or medical institution of higher education for any violations, compensatory damages, and costs and attorney fees. Further the bill waives sovereign immunity for such providers and institutions for up to a year after any violation.

The bill requires health care providers with more than 50 employees or any medical institution of higher education to annually submit certification of compliance to the State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts with Sections 191.1770 to 191.1810, RSMo, and authorizes the Attorney General to investigate allegations of violations.

The State Board of Registration for the Healing Arts shall publish on its website annually a list of all the health care providers and medical institutions that have provided annual certification.