

Chapter 429.

AN ACT to promote the public health and regulate the practice of medicine in the State of Maryland.

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That every person practicing medicine in any of its departments in this state shall possess the qualifications required by this act. If a graduate of medicine, he or she, shall present his or her diploma to the state board of health for verification as to its genuineness ; or furnish such other evidence as may be satisfactory to the said board of health that he or she is a *bona fide* graduate of a reputable medical college, authorized by law to issue diplomas. If the diploma has been issued by a legally authorized medical college of good reputation and standing, and if the person named therein be the person claiming or presenting the same, the state board of health shall issue its certificate to that effect, signed by the president and secretary of the said board, and such certificate shall be conclusive as to the right of the lawful holder of the same to practice medicine in this state ; provided, that the provisions of this act shall not apply to any person who has been practicing medicine continuously within this state for ten years before the passage of this act.

SEC. 2. *And be it enacted,* That the verification of the diploma shall consist in the affidavit of the holder or applicant that he or she is the lawful possessor of the same, and that he or she is the person therein named ; and for the purpose of this act the said state board of health, or a majority thereof, is authorized to administer oaths, or examine under oath, any person applying for the certificate of the board. Graduates may present their diplomas, with affidavits as to the genuineness of the same taken before any person authorized to administer oaths in this state, attested under the hand and official seal of such officer, if he have a seal, by letter or by proxy ; and the said state board of health shall, if satisfied that the diploma has been