

House Bill 826 (COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE)

By: Representatives Price of the 48th, Cooper of the 43rd, Rynders of the 152nd, Hawkins of the 27th, Belton of the 112th, and others

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 2 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to medical practice relative to physicians, assistants, and others, so as to provide for
3 certain requirements for advertisement or publication of representations of board certification
4 by physicians; to provide for disciplinary action as a result of violations; to provide for
5 related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 2 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
9 medical practice relative to physicians, assistants, and others, is amended by adding a new
10 Code section to read as follows:

11 "43-34-22.1.

12 (a) No physician shall advertise or hold himself or herself out to the public in any manner
13 as being certified or board certified in any specialty or subspecialty by a public or private
14 board, including, but not limited to, a multidisciplinary board, unless:

15 (1) The advertisement or publication states the full name of the certifying board; and

16 (2) Such certifying board either:

17 (A) Is a member board of the American Board of Medical Specialties or the American
18 Osteopathic Association; or

19 (B) Requires successful completion of a postgraduate training program approved by
20 the Accreditation Commission for Graduate Medical Education or the American
21 Osteopathic Association that provides complete training in the specialty or subspecialty
22 certified, followed by prerequisite certification by the American Board of Medical
23 Specialties or the American Osteopathic Association board for that training field, and
24 further successful completion of an examination in the specialty or subspecialty
25 certified.

26 (b) The board may take any disciplinary action provided under subsection (b) of Code
27 Section 43-34-8 upon a finding of any conduct in violation of this Code section."

28 **SECTION 2.**

29 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.