

# HOUSE RESEARCH

## Bill Summary

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**Version:** As introduced

**Authors:** Westrom and others

**Subject:** Hospital Accrediting Organization Authorization

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### Overview

This bill adds the American Osteopathic Association (AOA), an accrediting agency for osteopathic medical colleges and health care facilities, as a recognized accreditation organization for presumptive hospital licensure and inspection purposes.

#### Section

- 1 License, permit, and survey fees.** Amends § 144.122. Adds the American Osteopathic Association (AOA) to a license fee category for hospitals and nursing homes that (in current law) is restricted to Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO).
- 2 Definitions.** Amends § 144.55, subd. 2. Removes the term "joint commission" and replaces it with "approved accrediting organization" and modifies its definition to include the American Osteopathic Association.
- 3 Routine inspections; presumption.** Amends § 144.55, subd. 4. Replaces the term "joint commission," when used, with "approved accrediting organization." The change allows the commissioner of health to presume that hospitals surveyed and accredited under the AOA comply with application and licensure requirements without requiring further inspection or information (if the hospital provides current and valid copies of its accreditation certificate, letter, and any comments or recommendations). Current law only allows JCAHO hospitals to be presumed in compliance with application and licensure requirements.

The change also removes AOA accredited hospitals from required inspections and subjects

**Section**

them to inspections done of a select sample of accredited hospitals.

- 4**      **Coordination of inspections.** Amends § 144.55, subd. 5. Replaces the term "joint commission," when used, with "approved accrediting organization." Allows prior AOA inspections to also be considered by the commissioner of health when determining whether an inspection is required.