ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION NO. 77-244

Mr. James E. Hill, M.D.
Secretary
State Board of Healing Arts
503 Kansas Avenue, Suite 500
Topeka, Kansas 66603

RE: Healing Arts - Licensure - Endorsement of Foreign License

SYNOPSIS: For purposes of licensure by endorsement as provided by K.S.A. 65-2833, Guam is a "territory."

Dear Dr. Hill:

You inquire about the legal status of the island of Guam. In particular, you ask if Guam is a United States Territory and whether persons licensed as doctors in Guam may have their licenses endorsed by the Kansas State Board of Healing Arts.

The legislature provided in K.S.A. 65-2833 that, "The board may without examination issue a license to a person who has been in the active branch of the healing arts in some other state, territory, District of Columbia, or other country, upon certification. . . ." The question raised is whether Guam is a territory as mentioned in the statute.

It is provided in 48 U.S.C. § 1421 that, "Guam is declared to be an unincorporated territory of the United States. . . ." The language of the Code clearly makes Guam a territory as referred to in K.S.A. 65-2833.
It is therefore my conclusion that Guam is a "territory" as provided in K.S.A. 65-2833 and that the Board may endorse a license from Guam if they follow the rest of the procedures provided by statute and regulation.

Very truly yours,

CURT T. SCHNEIDER
Attorney General

CTS:PAH:ksn