

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2622 Session of
2002

INTRODUCED BY SANTONI, SOLOBAY, CALTAGIRONE, DALEY, WASHINGTON,
HORSEY, CORRIGAN, M. COHEN, GRUCELA, HARHAI, MELIO, MCGEEHAN,
YOUNGBLOOD, CURRY AND J. WILLIAMS, MAY 6, 2002

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, MAY 6, 2002

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of December 20, 1985 (P.L.457, No.112),
2 entitled "An act relating to the right to practice medicine
3 and surgery and the right to practice medically related acts;
4 reestablishing the State Board of Medical Education and
5 Licensure as the State Board of Medicine and providing for
6 its composition, powers and duties; providing for the
7 issuance of licenses and certificates and the suspension and
8 revocation of licenses and certificates; providing penalties;
9 and making repeals," providing for perfusionist licensing,
10 qualifications, supervision and scope of practice,
11 regulations and exemptions.

12 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
13 hereby enacts as follows:

14 Section 1. Section 2 of the act of December 20, 1985
15 (P.L.457, No.112), known as the Medical Practice Act of 1985, is
16 amended by adding definitions to read:

17 Section 2. Definitions.

18 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
19 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
20 context clearly indicates otherwise:

21 * * *

22 "Extracorporeal circulation." The diversion of a patient's

blood through a heart-lung machine or similar device that assumes the functions of the patient's heart, lung, kidney, liver or other organs.

* * *

"Perfusion." The functions necessary for the support, treatment, measurement or supplementation of the cardiovascular systems or other organs, or a combination of those functions, and for ensuring the safe management of physiologic functions by monitoring and analyzing the parameters of the systems under the supervision of a licensed physician.

"Perfusionist." An individual who is licensed to practice perfusion by the State Board of Medicine or the State Board of Osteopathic Examiners.

* * *

Section 2. Section 3(a) of the act, amended December 10, 2001 (P.L.859, No.92), is amended to read:

Section 3. State Board of Medicine.

(a) Establishment.--The State Board of Medicine shall consist of the commissioner or his designee, the Secretary of Health or his designee, two members appointed by the Governor who shall be persons representing the public at large and seven members appointed by the Governor, six of whom shall be medical doctors with unrestricted licenses to practice medicine and surgery in this Commonwealth for five years immediately preceding their appointment and one who shall be a nurse midwife, physician assistant, certified registered nurse practitioner, respiratory care practitioner [or], certified athletic trainer or perfusionist licensed or certified under the laws of this Commonwealth. All professional and public members of the board shall be appointed by the Governor, with the advice

1 and consent of a majority of the members elected to the Senate.

2 * * *

3 Section 3. The act is amended by adding a section to read:

4 Section 13.3. Perfusionist.

5 (a) License required.--Eighteen months after the effective
6 date of this section, it shall be unlawful for any person to
7 hold himself out to the public as a perfusionist or to practice
8 or offer to practice perfusion unless the person holds a valid,
9 current license issued by the board or the State Board of
10 Osteopathic Medical Examiners.

11 (b) Use of title.--A perfusionist who holds a valid, current
12 license issued by either board may use the title perfusionist or
13 licensed perfusionist, or an appropriate abbreviation of the
14 title, such as "LP."

15 (c) Regulations.--The board is authorized to promulgate
16 regulations to implement this section.

17 (d) Supervision and scope of practice.--A perfusionist may
18 perform perfusion to an individual being treated by a licensed
19 physician under medical supervision and approval consistent with
20 standing orders or protocols of a hospital. These services shall
21 include:

22 (1) The use of extracorporeal circulation, long-term
23 cardiopulmonary support techniques, including extracorporeal
24 carbon dioxide removal, extracorporeal membrane oxygenation
25 and associated therapeutic and diagnostic techniques.

26 (2) Counterpulsion, ventricular assistance,
27 autotransfusion, blood and blood component conservation
28 techniques, myocardial and organ preservation, extracorporeal
29 life support and isolated limb perfusion.

30 (3) Blood and blood component management techniques,

1 advanced life support and other related functions.

2 (4) In the performance of the acts described in
3 paragraphs (1) through (3):

4 (i) The administration of:

5 (A) Pharmacological and therapeutic agents.

6 (B) Blood products or anesthetic agents through
7 the extracorporeal circuit or through an intravenous
8 line in conjunction with extracorporeal support,
9 under the supervision of the treating physician.

10 (ii) The performance and use of:

11 (A) Anticoagulation monitoring and analysis.

12 (B) Physiologic monitoring and analysis.

13 (C) Blood gas and chemistry monitoring and
14 analysis.

15 (D) Hematologic monitoring and analysis.

16 (E) Hypothermia.

17 (F) Hyperthermia.

18 (G) Normothermia.

19 (H) Hemoconcentration and hemodilution.

20 (I) Hemodialysis in conjunction with perfusion
21 service.

22 (iii) The observation of signs and symptoms related
23 to perfusion services, the determination of whether the
24 signs and symptoms exhibit abnormal characteristics and
25 the implementation of appropriate reporting, perfusion
26 protocols or changes in or the initiation of emergency
27 procedures.

28 (e) Exemptions.--The following persons may perform
29 perfusion, as indicated:

30 (1) A person licensed under any other section of this

1 act or any other law of this Commonwealth, while engaging in
2 the practice for which the person is licensed.

3 (2) A student enrolled in an accredited perfusion
4 education program if perfusion performed by the student:

5 (i) is an integral part of the student's course of
6 study; and

7 (ii) is performed under the direct supervision of a
8 perfusionist who is assigned to supervise the student and
9 who is on duty and immediately available in the assigned
10 patient care area.

11 (3) A graduate of an accredited perfusion education
12 program, if perfusion services:

13 (i) are necessary to fulfill the eligibility
14 requirements for a certification examination; and

15 (ii) are performed under the supervision and
16 responsibility of a perfusionist who is on duty and
17 assigned to supervise the graduate.

18 (4) A legally qualified person employed by the Federal
19 Government to practice perfusion while in the discharge of
20 the person's official duties.

21 (f) Qualifications.--An applicant shall be licensed to
22 practice perfusion under this act if the applicant meets all of
23 the following qualifications and has otherwise complied with the
24 provisions of this act:

25 (1) The person is at least 18 years of age.

26 (2) The person is of good moral character.

27 (3) The person has completed an application form
28 provided by the board.

29 (4) The person has successfully completed a perfusion
30 education program approved by the board.

1 (5) The person is certified as a certified clinical
2 perfusionist by a certifying agency approved by the board.
3 The certification shall include an examination approved by
4 the board.

5 (g) Certain certified persons not graduates of accredited
6 programs.--Within two years of the effective date of this
7 section, an applicant who was not a graduate of an accredited
8 program prior to 1981, but met the then-current eligibility
9 requirements for certification as a certified clinical
10 perfusionist and subsequently was certified, shall be licensed
11 as a perfusionist if the applicant otherwise complies with the
12 provisions of this act.

13 Section 4. This act shall take effect in 60 days.