
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1348 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY SONNEY, GIBBONS, GINGRICH, HARKINS, LUCAS,
MILLARD, PICKETT AND READSHAW, MAY 8, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE, MAY 8, 2013

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," further providing for physician
10 assistants.

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

13 Section 1. Section 13(e) of the act of December 20, 1985
14 (P.L.457, No.112), known as the Medical Practice Act of 1985,
15 amended July 20, 2007 (P.L.314, No.46), is amended and the
16 section is amended by adding a subsection to read:

17 Section 13. Physician assistants.

18 * * *

19 (d.1) Patient record review.--

20 (1) The approved physician shall countersign 100% of the
21 patient records completed by the physician assistant within a
22 reasonable time, which shall not exceed ten days, during each

1 of the following time periods:

2 (i) The first 12 months of the physician assistant's
3 practice post graduation and after the physician
4 assistant has fulfilled the criteria for licensure set
5 forth in section 36(c).

6 (ii) The first 12 months of the physician
7 assistant's practice in a new specialty in which the
8 physician assistant is practicing.

9 (iii) The first six months of the physician
10 assistant's practice in the same specialty under the
11 supervision of the approved physician, unless the
12 physician assistant has multiple approved physicians and
13 practiced under the supervision of at least one of those
14 approved physicians for six months.

15 (2) In the case of a physician assistant who is not
16 subject to 100% review of the physician assistant's patient
17 records pursuant to paragraph (1), the approved physician
18 shall personally review on a regular basis a selected number
19 of the patient records completed by the physician assistant.
20 The approved physician shall select patient records for
21 review on the basis of written criteria established by the
22 approved physician and the physician assistant. The number of
23 patient records reviewed shall be sufficient to assure
24 adequate review of the physician assistant's scope of
25 practice.

26 (e) Written agreement.--A physician assistant shall not
27 provide a medical service without a written agreement with one
28 or more physicians which provides for all of the following:

29 (1) Identifies and is signed by each physician the
30 physician assistant will be assisting.

1 (2) Describes the manner in which the physician
2 assistant will be assisting each named physician.

3 (3) Describes the nature and degree of supervision and
4 direction each named physician will provide the physician
5 assistant[.], including, but not limited to, the number and
6 frequency of the patient record reviews required by
7 subsection (d.1) and the criteria for selecting patient
8 records for review when 100% review is not required.

9 (4) Designates one of the named physicians as having the
10 primary responsibility for supervising and directing the
11 physician assistant.

12 (5) Has been approved by the board as satisfying the
13 foregoing and as consistent with the restrictions contained
14 in or authorized by this section.

15 A physician assistant shall not assist a physician in a manner
16 not described in the agreement or without the nature and degree
17 of supervision and direction described in the agreement. There
18 shall be no more than four physician assistants for whom a
19 physician has responsibility or supervises pursuant to a written
20 agreement at any time. In health care facilities licensed under
21 the act of July 19, 1979 (P.L.130, No.48), known as the Health
22 Care Facilities Act, a physician assistant shall be under the
23 supervision and direction of a physician or physician group
24 pursuant to a written agreement, provided that a physician
25 supervises no more than four physician assistants at any time. A
26 physician may apply for a waiver to employ or supervise more
27 than four physician assistants at any time under this section
28 for good cause, as determined by the board.

29 * * *

30 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.