

BILL ANALYSIS

DATE: 10/24/2007
COMMITTEE: Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure
BILL NO.: HB 501
PRIME SPONSOR: Rep. Santoni
PRINTER NO. 1910

The bill amends the Osteopathic Medical Practice Act (Act 261 of 1978) to license perfusionists.

A perfusionist is the person trained to operate circulation equipment during medical procedures when it is necessary to temporarily and artificially replace the patient's circulatory or respiratory functions.

The bills would add one perfusionist to the rotating seat on the State Board of Osteopathic Medicine.

In order to be licensed, an individual must be at least 18 years of age, be of good moral character, be a graduate of an accredited perfusion school, and be certified by a certifying agency approved by the board. The licensing shall include an examination approved by the Board.

A perfusionist may perform perfusion under medical supervision and approval consistent with standing orders or protocols of a hospital that are promulgated and approved by the physician designated as the medical director of the cardiovascular surgery program.

The bill provides a grandfathering provision for those who did not graduate from an accredited program prior to 1981, but who satisfied the eligibility requirements for certification prior to 1981. In addition it would provide a temporary graduate license to perform perfusion prior to certification, a temporary provisional license for licensees from other states, and a temporary emergency exemption for out-of-state perfusionist.

All perfusionist must carry the same level of medical liability insurance as required for nonparticipating health care providers under MCARE (\$1million per/\$3million aggregate).

The Board will adopt regulations requiring 30 hours of continuing education for perfusionist license renewal.

The act will take effect in 60 days.