

By the Committee on Health Care and Senator Brown-Waite

317-1944-98

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to regulation of professionals;
3 amending s. 455.624, F.S.; specifying health
4 care professionals for whom failure to wear
5 certain identification while offering services
6 to the public is grounds for disciplinary
7 action; requiring the Department of Health or
8 appropriate board to designate by rule
9 exceptions to the grounds for disciplinary
10 action; providing penalties; providing an
11 effective date.

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13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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15 Section 1. Paragraph (t) is added to subsection (1) of
16 section 455.624, Florida Statutes, to read:

17 455.624 Grounds for discipline; penalties;
18 enforcement.--

19 (1) The following acts shall constitute grounds for
20 which the disciplinary actions specified in subsection (2) may
21 be taken:

22 (t) Failing to wear identification, which shall be
23 conspicuously displayed and legible, indicating the
24 practitioner's name and professional title authorized pursuant
25 to section 400.211; chapter 457; chapter 458; chapter 459;
26 chapter 460; chapter 461; chapter 462; chapter 463; chapter
27 464; chapter 465; chapter 466; chapter 467; part I, part III,
28 part V, part X, or part XIV of chapter 468; part III or part
29 IV of chapter 483; chapter 484; chapter 486; chapter 490; or
30 chapter 491, while practicing as an employee or operator of a
31 hospital, clinic, or group practice, or at a commercial

1 establishment, offering health care services to the public.
2 However, physicians licensed under chapter 458, chapter 459,
3 chapter 460, or chapter 461, and psychologists licensed under
4 chapter 490, are exempt from the provisions of this paragraph
5 while practicing in a clinic or group practice. Disciplinary
6 actions for violation of this paragraph shall be restricted to
7 a notice of noncompliance pursuant to subsection (3). The
8 department or appropriate board shall adopt a rule to exempt
9 practitioners from the requirements of this paragraph in
10 practice settings where compliance would interfere with the
11 practitioner's delivery of health care services.

12 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 1998.

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14 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
15 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
16 Senate Bill 932

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17 The committee substitute extends a requirement for specified
18 health care professionals to wear identification to: nursing
19 assistants; midwives; orthotists; prosthetists;
20 prosthetist-orthotists; pedorthotists; orthotic fitters;
21 orthotic fitter assistants; clinical laboratory personnel;
22 medical physicists; opticians; and hearing aid specialists.
23 The committee substitute authorizes the Department of Health
24 or the appropriate regulatory board to adopt administrative
25 rules to exempt practitioners from the identification
26 requirements in practice settings where compliance would
27 interfere with the practitioner's delivery of health care
28 services. The committee substitute limits the sanction for
29 failure to comply with practitioner identification
30 requirements to the issuance of a notice of noncompliance. The
31 committee substitute exempts certain health care practitioners
from the identification requirements when practicing in a
clinic, or group practice.

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