

By the Committee on Health Regulation; and Senators Lynn and Garcia

588-03523-12

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to surgical technology; amending s.
3 395.0191, F.S.; requiring licensed facilities to
4 establish policies and procedures for the employment
5 of surgical technologists; providing a definition;
6 providing educational and credentialing requirements;
7 providing exceptions; providing an effective date.
8

9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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11 Section 1. Paragraph (e) is added to subsection (2) of
12 section 395.0191, Florida Statutes, to read:

13 395.0191 Staff membership and clinical privileges.—

14 (2)

15 (e) Each licensed facility shall establish policies and
16 procedures for the employment of surgical technologists.

17 1. For purposes of this paragraph, "surgical technologist"
18 means a person who assists and practices under the supervision
19 of a surgeon to ensure that the operating room environment is
20 safe, that proper equipment is available, and that the operative
21 procedure is conducted efficiently. Surgical technologist duties
22 include, but are not limited to, maintaining sterility during a
23 surgical procedure, handling and ensuring the availability of
24 necessary equipment and supplies, and maintaining visibility of
25 the operative site.

26 2. The licensed facility may consider for such employment
27 only a person who:

28 a. Has successfully completed a surgical technologist
29 training program accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health

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30 Education Schools or the Commission on Accreditation of Allied
31 Health Education Programs; and

32 b. Holds certification as a surgical technologist from an
33 organization recognized by the National Commission for
34 Certifying Agencies. Such certification must be maintained
35 throughout employment at the facility;

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37 unless the licensed facility continuously employs a person who
38 is working as a surgical technologist on October 1, 2012, or
39 uses a licensed practitioner subject to chapter 456 or a student
40 as a surgical technologist, and such practitioner or student is
41 appropriately trained and only performs duties within his or her
42 scope of practice.

43 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2012.