

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to anesthesiologist assistants;  
 3           amending ss. 458.3475 and 459.023, F.S.; revising the  
 4           definitions of the terms "anesthesiologist" and  
 5           "direct supervision"; revising requirements for the  
 6           written protocol between an anesthesiologist assistant  
 7           and a supervising anesthesiologist; revising  
 8           provisions relating to duties and functions  
 9           anesthesiologist assistants may perform; revising  
 10          licensure requirements for anesthesiologist  
 11          assistants; providing an effective date.

12  
 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

14  
 15           Section 1. Paragraphs (a) and (g) of subsection (1),  
 16           paragraph (a) subsection (3), and paragraphs (a) and (b) of  
 17           subsection (6) of section 458.3475, Florida Statutes, are  
 18           amended to read:

19           458.3475 Anesthesiologist assistants.—

20           (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

21           (a) "Anesthesiologist" means an allopathic or osteopathic  
 22           physician who holds an active, unrestricted license; who has  
 23           successfully completed an anesthesiology training program  
 24           approved by the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical  
 25           Education or its equivalent; and who is certified by the

26 American Board of Anesthesiology, is eligible to take that  
27 board's examination, or is certified by the Board of  
28 Certification in Anesthesiology affiliated with the American  
29 Association of Physician Specialists.

30 (g) "Direct supervision" means the physical presence of a  
31 supervising anesthesiologist on the premises such that the  
32 supervising anesthesiologist is immediately available as needed  
33 ~~onsite, personal supervision by an anesthesiologist who is~~  
34 ~~present in the office when the procedure is being performed in~~  
35 ~~that office, or is present in the surgical or obstetrical suite~~  
36 ~~when the procedure is being performed in that surgical or~~  
37 ~~obstetrical suite and who is in all instances immediately~~  
38 ~~available to provide assistance and direction to the~~  
39 ~~anesthesiologist assistant while anesthesia services are being~~  
40 ~~performed.~~

41 (3) PERFORMANCE OF ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS.—

42 (a) An anesthesiologist assistant may assist an  
43 anesthesiologist in developing and implementing an anesthesia  
44 care plan for a patient, may personally administer the  
45 prescribed anesthetic under the direct supervision of an  
46 anesthesiologist, and may perform tasks and services as  
47 specified in a written protocol approved by the supervising  
48 anesthesiologist which may include any of the following  
49 functions. ~~In providing assistance to an anesthesiologist, an~~  
50 ~~anesthesiologist assistant may perform duties established by~~

51 ~~rule by the board in any of the following functions that are~~  
52 ~~included in the anesthesiologist assistant's protocol while~~  
53 ~~under the direct supervision of an anesthesiologist:~~

54 1. Obtain a comprehensive patient history and present the  
55 history to the supervising anesthesiologist.

56 2. Pretest and calibrate anesthesia delivery systems and  
57 monitor, obtain, and interpret information from the systems and  
58 monitors.

59 3. Assist the supervising anesthesiologist with the  
60 implementation of medically accepted monitoring techniques.

61 4. Establish basic and advanced airway interventions,  
62 including intubation of the trachea and performing ventilatory  
63 support.

64 5. Administer intermittent vasoactive drugs and start and  
65 adjust vasoactive infusions.

66 6. Administer anesthetic drugs, adjuvant drugs, and  
67 accessory drugs.

68 7. Assist the supervising anesthesiologist with the  
69 performance of epidural anesthetic procedures and spinal  
70 anesthetic procedures.

71 8. Administer blood, blood products, and supportive  
72 fluids.

73 9. Support life functions during anesthesia health care,  
74 including induction and intubation procedures, the use of  
75 appropriate mechanical supportive devices, and the management of

76 fluid, electrolyte, and blood component balances.

77 10. Recognize and take appropriate corrective action for  
78 abnormal patient responses to anesthesia, adjunctive medication,  
79 or other forms of therapy.

80 11. Participate in management of the patient while in the  
81 postanesthesia recovery area, including the administration of  
82 any supporting fluids or drugs.

83 12. Place special peripheral and central venous and  
84 arterial lines for blood sampling and monitoring as appropriate.

85 (6) ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT LICENSURE.—

86 (a) Any person desiring to be licensed as an  
87 anesthesiologist assistant must apply to the department. The  
88 department shall issue a license to any person certified by the  
89 board to:

90 1. Be at least 18 years of age.

91 2. Have satisfactorily passed a proficiency examination  
92 with a score established by the National Commission on  
93 Certification of Anesthesiologist Assistants.

94 3. Be certified in advanced cardiac life support.

95 4. Have completed the application form and remitted an  
96 application fee, not to exceed \$1,000, as set by the boards. An  
97 application must include:

98 a. A certificate of completion of an approved graduate  
99 level program.

100 b. An acknowledgment ~~A sworn statement~~ of any prior felony

101 convictions.

102 c. An acknowledgment ~~A sworn statement~~ of any prior

103 discipline or denial of licensure or certification in any state.

104 d. Two letters of recommendation from anesthesiologists.

105 (b) A license must be renewed biennially. Each renewal

106 must include:

107 1. A renewal fee, not to exceed \$1,000, as set by the

108 boards.

109 2. An acknowledgment ~~A sworn statement~~ of no felony

110 convictions in the immediately preceding 2 years.

111 Section 2. Paragraphs (a) and (g) of subsection (1),

112 paragraph (a) of subsection (3), and paragraphs (a) and (b) of

113 subsection (6) of section 459.023, Florida Statutes, are amended

114 to read:

115 459.023 Anesthesiologist assistants.—

116 (1) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

117 (a) "Anesthesiologist" means an osteopathic or allopathic

118 physician who holds an active, unrestricted license; who has

119 successfully completed an anesthesiology training program

120 approved by the Accreditation Council on Graduate Medical

121 Education, or its equivalent, or the American Osteopathic

122 Association; and who is certified by the American Osteopathic

123 Board of Anesthesiology or is eligible to take that board's

124 examination, is certified by the American Board of

125 Anesthesiology or is eligible to take that board's examination,

126 or is certified by the Board of Certification in Anesthesiology  
127 affiliated with the American Association of Physician  
128 Specialists.

129 (g) "Direct supervision" means the physical presence of a  
130 supervising anesthesiologist on the premises such that the  
131 supervising anesthesiologist is immediately available as needed  
132 ~~onsite, personal supervision by an anesthesiologist who is~~  
133 ~~present in the office when the procedure is being performed in~~  
134 ~~that office, or is present in the surgical or obstetrical suite~~  
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136 ~~obstetrical suite and who is in all instances immediately~~  
137 ~~available to provide assistance and direction to the~~  
138 ~~anesthesiologist assistant while anesthesia services are being~~  
139 ~~performed.~~

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142 anesthesiologist in developing and implementing an anesthesia  
143 care plan for a patient, may personally administer the  
144 prescribed anesthetic under the direct supervision of an  
145 anesthesiologist, and may perform tasks and services as  
146 specified in a written protocol approved by the supervising  
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154 history to the supervising anesthesiologist.

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157 monitors.

158 3. Assist the supervising anesthesiologist with the  
159 implementation of medically accepted monitoring techniques.

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161 including intubation of the trachea and performing ventilatory  
162 support.

163 5. Administer intermittent vasoactive drugs and start and  
164 adjust vasoactive infusions.

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166 accessory drugs.

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168 performance of epidural anesthetic procedures and spinal  
169 anesthetic procedures.

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171 fluids.

172 9. Support life functions during anesthesia health care,  
173 including induction and intubation procedures, the use of  
174 appropriate mechanical supportive devices, and the management of  
175 fluid, electrolyte, and blood component balances.

176           10. Recognize and take appropriate corrective action for  
 177 abnormal patient responses to anesthesia, adjunctive medication,  
 178 or other forms of therapy.

179           11. Participate in management of the patient while in the  
 180 postanesthesia recovery area, including the administration of  
 181 any supporting fluids or drugs.

182           12. Place special peripheral and central venous and  
 183 arterial lines for blood sampling and monitoring as appropriate.

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 187 department shall issue a license to any person certified by the  
 188 board to:

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190           2. Have satisfactorily passed a proficiency examination  
 191 with a score established by the National Commission on  
 192 Certification of Anesthesiologist Assistants.

193           3. Be certified in advanced cardiac life support.

194           4. Have completed the application form and remitted an  
 195 application fee, not to exceed \$1,000, as set by the boards. An  
 196 application must include:

197           a. A certificate of completion of an approved graduate  
 198 level program.

199           b. An acknowledgment ~~A sworn statement~~ of any prior felony  
 200 convictions.



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- 201           c. An acknowledgment ~~A sworn statement~~ of any prior  
 202 discipline or denial of licensure or certification in any state.  
 203           d. Two letters of recommendation from anesthesiologists.  
 204           (b) A license must be renewed biennially. Each renewal  
 205 must include:  
 206           1. A renewal fee, not to exceed \$1,000, as set by the  
 207 boards.  
 208           2. An acknowledgment ~~A sworn statement~~ of no felony  
 209 convictions in the immediately preceding 2 years.  
 210           Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.