

HB 673

2023

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to central service technicians;
3 creating pt. XVII of ch. 468, F.S.; creating s.
4 468.91, F.S.; providing a short title; creating s.
5 468.915, F.S.; providing legislative intent; creating
6 s. 468.93, F.S.; providing definitions; creating s.
7 468.95, F.S.; establishing training certification
8 requirements for central service technicians;
9 requiring a health care facility to confirm and
10 provide certain information; providing applicability;
11 providing an effective date.

12
13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
14

15 Section 1. Part XVII of chapter 468, Florida Statutes,
16 consisting of sections 468.91, 468.915, 468.93, and 468.95, is
17 created to read:

18 468.91 Short title.—This part may be cited as the "Central
19 Service Technicians Act."

20 468.915 Legislative intent.—The intent of this part is to
21 ensure that central service technicians employed in the state
22 meet minimum requirements for safe practice as a member of a
23 surgical care team. It is the intent of the Legislature that a
24 central service technician who falls below minimum competency
25 standards or who otherwise presents a danger to the public

26 health and safety be prohibited from practicing in the state.

27 468.93 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

28 (1) "Central service technician" means a person who
29 decontaminates, inspects, assembles, packages, and sterilizes
30 resusable medical instruments or devices that are used in a
31 health care facility.

32 (2) "Health care facility" means a hospital or an
33 ambulatory surgical center as those terms are defined in s.
34 395.002.

35 (3) "Health care practitioner" means a person licensed or
36 certified under chapter 457; chapter 458; chapter 459; chapter
37 460; chapter 461; chapter 462; chapter 463; chapter 464; chapter
38 465; chapter 466; chapter 467; part I, part II, part III, part
39 IV, part V, and part XIV of chapter 468, chapter 478, chapter
40 480, chapter 483, chapter 485, chapter 486, chapter 490, or
41 chapter 491.

42 468.95 Training certification requirements for central
43 service technicians.—

44 (1) A health care facility shall only employ or otherwise
45 retain the services of a person as a central service technician
46 if such person has successfully passed a nationally accredited
47 exam for central service technicians and holds and maintains one
48 of the following credentials administered by a nationally
49 accredited central service credentialing organization:

50 (a) A certified registered central service technician

51 credential.

52 (b) A certified sterile processing and distribution
53 technician credential.

54 (2)(a) If a person does not meet the requirements of
55 subsection (1) but provides documentation that he or she was
56 employed by or provided central service technician services to a
57 health care facility on or before December 31, 2023, he or she
58 shall have 18 months after the date of employment to meet the
59 requirements under subsection (1).

60 (b) A health care facility shall, upon written request,
61 confirm in writing a person's dates of employment or the
62 contract period during which a person provided central service
63 technician services to the health care facility.

64 (3) A person who meets the requirements of subsection (1)
65 and who is employed by or provides central service technician
66 services to a health care facility must complete on an annual
67 basis at least 10 hours of continuing education credits to
68 continue such employment. The continuing education shall be in
69 an area related to the functions of a central service
70 technician.

71 (4) This section does not apply to the following persons
72 or prevent such persons from being employed by or providing
73 central service technician services to a health care facility:

74 (a) A health care practitioner if the health care
75 practitioner is acting within the scope of his or her license or

HB 673

2023

76 certification.

77 (b) A student or intern if the student or intern is
78 performing central service technician services under the direct
79 supervision of a health care practitioner as part of the
80 student's or intern's training.

81 (c) A person who holds or maintains a registration,
82 certification, or license from a nationally accredited
83 credentialing organization to perform health services.

84 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.