

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to central service technician  
3       services; creating s. 395.1075, F.S.; providing  
4       legislative purpose and intent; defining the terms  
5       "central service technician" and "health care  
6       practitioner"; requiring licensed hospitals and  
7       ambulatory surgical centers to employ or otherwise  
8       retain the services of a central service technician  
9       only if he or she meets specified criteria; requiring  
10      central service technicians who do not meet specified  
11      criteria to obtain a certain certification within a  
12      specified timeframe as a condition of continued  
13      employment; requiring central service technicians to  
14      complete a specified number of continuing education  
15      hours annually as a condition of continued employment;  
16      providing a requirement for such continuing education;  
17      requiring hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers  
18      to, upon the written request of a central service  
19      technician, verify in writing the technician's dates  
20      of employment or contract period with the facility;  
21      providing applicability; providing an effective date.

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

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25       **Section 1.   Section 395.1075, Florida Statutes, is created**

26 **to read:**

27 395.1075 Central service technician services.—

28 (1) LEGISLATIVE PURPOSE AND INTENT.—The legislative  
29 purpose for enacting this section is to ensure that every new  
30 central service technician employed by a hospital or an  
31 ambulatory surgical center in this state meets minimum  
32 requirements for safe practice as a member of the surgical care  
33 team. It is the intent of the Legislature that central service  
34 technicians who fall below minimum competency or who otherwise  
35 present a danger to public health and safety be prohibited from  
36 practicing in this state.

37 (2) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section, the term:

38 (a) "Central service technician" means a person who  
39 decontaminates, inspects, assembles, disassembles, packages, and  
40 sterilizes reusable medical instruments or devices for use in a  
41 licensed facility.

42 (b) "Health care practitioner" has the same meaning as in  
43 s. 456.001.

44 (3) CERTIFICATION AND CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS  
45 FOR CENTRAL SERVICE TECHNICIANS.—

46 (a) A licensed facility shall employ or otherwise retain  
47 the services of a central service technician only if such person  
48 has successfully passed a nationally accredited exam for central  
49 service technicians and meets at least one of the following  
50 criteria:

51       1. Holds and maintains a certified registered central  
52 service technician credential issued by a nationally accredited  
53 central service credentialing organization.

54       2. Holds and maintains a certified sterile processing and  
55 distribution technician credential issued by a nationally  
56 accredited central service credentialing organization.

57       3. Provides evidence that he or she was employed by or  
58 provided services of a central service technician to a licensed  
59 facility on or before December 31, 2026.

60       (b) A central service technician who does not meet the  
61 requirements of paragraph (a) must obtain the required certified  
62 registered central service technician credential or certified  
63 sterile processing and distribution technician credential within  
64 18 months after his or her date of hire in order to continue  
65 employment as a central service technician.

66       (c) A person who qualifies under paragraph (a) to practice  
67 as a central service technician in a licensed facility must  
68 annually complete at least 10 hours of continuing education  
69 credits to continue employment as a central service technician.  
70 The continuing education must be related to the functions of a  
71 central service technician.

72       (d) A licensed facility shall, upon the written request of  
73 a central service technician, verify, in writing, the central  
74 service technician's dates of employment or the contract period  
75 during which the central service technician provided services to

76   the licensed facility.

77       (4) EXEMPTIONS.—This section does not apply to:

78       (a) A health care practitioner if he or she is acting  
79   within the scope of his or her license or certification.

80       (b) A student or an intern if he or she is performing the  
81   functions of a central service technician under the direct  
82   supervision of a health care practitioner as part of the  
83   student's or intern's training or internship.

84       (c) A person who holds and maintains a registration,  
85   certification, or license from a nationally accredited  
86   credentialing organization to perform health services.

87       **Section 2.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.