

By: Representative Bain

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 907

1 AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE LICENSURE OF ANESTHESIOLOGIST
 2 ASSISTANTS BY THE STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL LICENSURE; TO PROVIDE
 3 MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS AND LIMITATIONS FOR PRACTICE BY
 4 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS; TO AUTHORIZE THE BOARD OF MEDICAL
 5 LICENSURE TO PROMULGATE RULES AND REGULATIONS REGARDING THAT
 6 PRACTICE; TO PROVIDE FOR LICENSURE FEES TO BE PAID BY APPLICANTS;
 7 TO AMEND SECTIONS 73-26-1 AND 73-43-11, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972,
 8 TO CONFORM TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT; AND FOR RELATED
 9 PURPOSES.

10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

11 **SECTION 1.** (1) As used in this section:

12 (a) "Board" means the State Board of Medical Licensure.

13 (b) "Anesthesiologist assistant" means a person who
 14 meets the board's criteria for licensure as an anesthesiologist
 15 assistant and is licensed as an anesthesiologist assistant by the
 16 board.

17 (c) "Supervision" means overseeing and accepting
 18 responsibility for the medical services rendered by an
 19 anesthesiologist assistant by a licensed anesthesiologist in a
 20 manner approved by the board.



21 (2) The State Board of Medical Licensure shall license and
22 regulate the practice of anesthesiologist assistants in accordance
23 with the provisions of this section.

24 (3) Every applicant for licensure as an anesthesiologist
25 assistant in the state shall meet the following criteria:

26 (a) Satisfy the board that the applicant is of good
27 moral character.

28 (b) Submit to the board proof of completion of a
29 graduate level training program accredited by the Commission on
30 Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs or its successor
31 organization.

32 (c) Submit to the board proof of current certification
33 from the National Commission for Certification of Anesthesiologist
34 Assistants (NCCAA) or its successor organization, including
35 passage of a certification examination administered by the NCCAA.
36 The applicant shall take the certification exam within twelve (12)
37 months after completing training.

38 (d) Meet any additional qualifications for licensure in
39 accordance with rules adopted by the board.

40 (4) Any person who is licensed to provide anesthesia
41 services as an assistant to an anesthesiologist licensed under
42 this section may use the title "anesthesiologist assistant." Any
43 other person who uses the title in any form or holds himself or
44 herself out to be an anesthesiologist assistant or to be so
45 licensed without first obtaining a license shall be deemed in



46 violation of this section. A student in any anesthesiologist
47 assistant training program shall be identified as a "student
48 anesthesiologist assistant" or an "anesthesiologist assistant
49 student," but under no circumstances shall the student use or
50 permit to be used on the student's behalf the terms "intern,"
51 "resident" or "fellow."

52 (5) Anesthesiologist assistants are authorized to provide
53 anesthesia services under the supervision of an anesthesiologist
54 licensed under Section 73-25-1 et seq. under the following
55 conditions:

56 (a) The board has adopted rules governing the provision
57 of anesthesia services by an anesthesiologist assistant consistent
58 with the requirements of subsection (6) of this section; and

59 (b) The anesthesiologist assistant holds a current
60 license issued by the board or is a student anesthesiologist
61 assistant participating in a training program leading to
62 certification by the National Commission for Certification
63 Anesthesiologist Assistants or its successor organization and
64 licensure as an anesthesiologist assistant under this section.

65 (6) The board shall adopt rules to implement this section
66 that include requirements and limitations on the provision of
67 anesthesia services by an anesthesiologist assistant as determined
68 by the board to be in the best interests of patient health and
69 safety. Rules adopted by the board under this section shall
70 include the following requirements:



71 (a) That an anesthesiologist assistant be supervised by
72 an anesthesiologist licensed under Section 73-25-1 et seq. who is
73 actively engaged in clinical practice and immediately available
74 on-site to provide assistance to the anesthesiologist assistant;
75 and

76 (b) That anesthesiologist assistants comply with all
77 continuing education requirements and recertification requirements
78 of the National Commission for Certification of Anesthesiologist
79 Assistants or its successor organization.

80 (7) Nothing in this section shall limit or expand the scope
81 of practice of physician assistants under existing law.

82 (8) Each applicant for a license by examination shall pay to
83 the board a fee, which shall be set and prescribed by the board.

84 **SECTION 2.** Section 73-26-1, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
85 amended as follows:

86 73-26-1. As used in this chapter:

87 (a) "Board" means the State Board of Medical Licensure.

88 (b) "Physician assistant" means a person who meets the
89 board's criteria for licensure as a physician assistant and is
90 licensed as a physician assistant by the board. * * *

91 (c) "Supervising physician" means a doctor of medicine
92 or a doctor of osteopathic medicine who holds an unrestricted
93 license from the board, and who is in the full-time practice of
94 medicine and who has been approved by the board to supervise
95 physician assistants.



96 (d) "Supervision" means overseeing and accepting
97 responsibility for the medical services rendered by a physician
98 assistant in a manner approved by the board.

99 **SECTION 3.** Section 73-43-11, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
100 amended as follows:

101 73-43-11. The State Board of Medical Licensure shall have
102 the following powers and responsibilities:

103 (a) Setting policies and professional standards
104 regarding the medical practice of physicians, osteopaths,
105 podiatrists and physician assistants and anesthesiologist
106 assistants practicing with physician supervision;

107 (b) Considering applications for licensure;

108 (c) Conducting examinations for licensure;

109 (d) Investigating alleged violations of the medical
110 practice act;

111 (e) Conducting hearings on disciplinary matters
112 involving violations of state and federal law, probation,
113 suspension and revocation of licenses;

114 (f) Considering petitions for termination of
115 probationary and suspension periods, and restoration of revoked
116 licenses;

117 (g) To promulgate and publish reasonable rules and
118 regulations necessary to enable it to discharge its functions and
119 to enforce the provisions of law regulating the practice of
120 medicine; however, the board shall not adopt any rule or



121 regulation or impose any requirement regarding the licensing of
122 physicians or osteopaths that conflicts with the prohibitions in
123 Section 73-49-3;

124 (h) To enter into contracts with any other state or
125 federal agency, or with any private person, organization or group
126 capable of contracting, if it finds such action to be in the
127 public interest and in the furtherance of its responsibilities;

128 (i) Perform the duties prescribed by Sections 73-26-1
129 through 73-26-5; and

130 (j) Perform the duties prescribed by the Interstate
131 Medical Licensure Compact, Section 73-25-101.

132 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
133 and after July 1, 2018.

