

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 54th Legislature (2014)

3 HOUSE BILL 2600

By: Fourkiller

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to public health and safety; defining
8 certain terms; prohibiting the practice of surgical
9 technology in a health care facility unless certain
10 requirements are met; providing exceptions; providing
11 for certain interpretation; providing State
12 Department of Health shall enforce provisions of act;
13 providing for codification; and providing an
14 effective date.

15 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

16 SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
17 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-1459 of Title 63, unless there
18 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

19 As used in this act:

20 1. "Health care facility" means a hospital, freestanding
21 surgical outpatient facility, or other similar entity that utilizes
22 surgical technologists;

23 2. "Surgical technologist" means a person who provides surgical
24 technology services; and

1 3. "Surgical technology" means surgical patient care that may
2 include, but is not limited to, one or more of the following
3 activities:

- 4 a. collaborating with the registered nurse circulator
5 prior to the surgical procedure to carry out the plan
6 of care by preparing the operating room, gathering
7 and preparing sterile supplies, instruments and
8 equipment, preparing and maintaining the sterile field
9 using sterile and aseptic technique, and ensuring that
10 surgical equipment is functioning properly,
- 11 b. intraoperatively, anticipating and responding to the
12 needs of the surgeon and other team members by
13 monitoring the sterile field and providing the
14 required instruments or supplies,
- 15 c. anticipating the needs of the surgical team based on
16 knowledge of human anatomy and pathophysiology and how
17 they relate to the surgical patient and the patient's
18 surgical procedure, and
- 19 d. as directed, performing tasks at the sterile field
20 including:
 - 21 (1) passing supplies, equipment or instruments,
 - 22 (2) sponging or suctioning an operative site,
 - 23 (3) preparing and cutting suture material,
 - 24 (4) transferring and irrigating with fluids,

- 1 (5) transferring but not administering drugs within
- 2 the sterile field,
- 3 (6) handling specimens,
- 4 (7) holding retractors and other instruments,
- 5 (8) applying electrocautery to clamps on bleeders,
- 6 (9) connecting drains to suction apparatus,
- 7 (10) applying dressings to closed wounds, and
- 8 (11) performing sponge, needle, supply, and instrument
- 9 counts with the registered nurse circulator.

10 SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
11 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-1460 of Title 63, unless there
12 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

13 A. A person may not practice surgical technology in a health
14 care facility unless the person meets one of the following:

15 1. Has successfully completed a nationally accredited
16 educational program for surgical technologists and holds and
17 maintains a certified surgical technologist credential administered
18 by a nationally recognized surgical technologist certifying body
19 accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies and
20 recognized by the American College of Surgeons and the Association
21 of Surgical Technologists;

22 2. Has completed an appropriate training program for surgical
23 technology in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, or Coast
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1 Guard of the United States or in the United States Public Health
2 Service Commissioned Corps;

3 3. Provides evidence that the person was employed to practice
4 surgical technology in a health care facility on or before the
5 effective date of this act; or

6 4. Is in the service of the federal government, to the extent
7 the person is performing duties related to that service.

8 B. A person may be employed or contracted to practice surgical
9 technology during the twelve-month period immediately following
10 successful completion of a surgical technology program, but may not
11 continue to be employed or contracted with beyond that period
12 without documentation that the employee or contractor holds and
13 maintains the certified surgical technologist credential required in
14 paragraph 1 of subsection A of this section.

15 C. A health care facility shall not employ or otherwise
16 contract for the services of a surgical technologist unless the
17 person meets the requirements of this section.

18 SECTION 3. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
19 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-1461 of Title 63, unless there
20 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

21 A. A person who qualifies to practice surgical technology in a
22 health care facility under paragraph 2 or 3 of subsection A of
23 Section 2 of this act shall complete the same number of continuing
24 education credits as certified surgical technologists are required

1 to complete in order to remain qualified to practice as a surgical
2 technologist.

3 B. A health care facility that employs or contracts with a
4 person to practice surgical technology shall verify that the person
5 meets the continuing education requirements of subsection A of this
6 section and, where applicable, that the person has maintained the
7 certified surgical technologist credential.

8 SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
9 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-1462 of Title 63, unless there
10 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

11 A health care facility may employ or otherwise contract with a
12 person who does not meet the requirements of Section 2 of this act
13 to practice surgical technology in a health care facility if:

14 1. After a diligent and thorough effort has been made, the
15 health care facility is unable to employ or contract with a
16 sufficient number of qualified surgical technologists who meet the
17 requirements of Section 2 of this act; and

18 2. The health care facility makes a written record of its
19 efforts under paragraph 1 of this section and retains the record at
20 the health care facility.

21 SECTION 5. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
22 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-1463 of Title 63, unless there
23 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

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1 This law does not repeal or modify any law relating to the
2 supervision of surgical technologists.

3 SECTION 6. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
4 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-1464 of Title 63, unless there
5 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

6 Nothing in this act shall prohibit any licensed practitioner
7 from performing surgical technology tasks or functions if the person
8 is acting within the scope of his or her license.

9 SECTION 7. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
10 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-1465 of Title 63, unless there
11 is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

12 The State Department of Health shall enforce the provisions of
13 this act.

14 SECTION 8. This act shall become effective November 1, 2014.

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