



General Assembly

February Session, 2002

Raised Bill No. 5684

LCO No. 2242

Referred to Committee on Public Health

Introduced by:
(PH)

AN ACT CONCERNING PERFUSIONISTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2002*) As used in sections 1 to 3,
2 inclusive, of this act and subsection (c) of section 19a-14 of the general
3 statutes, as amended by this act:

4 (1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Public Health.

5 (2) "Department" means the Department of Public Health.

6 (3) "Extracorporeal circulation" means the diversion of a patient's
7 blood through a heart-lung machine or a similar device that assumes
8 the functions of the patient's heart, lungs, kidney, liver or other organs.

9 (4) "Perfusion" means the functions necessary for the support,
10 treatment, measurement or supplementation of the cardiovascular,
11 circulatory or respiratory system or other organs, or a combination of
12 such activities, and to ensure the safe management of physiologic
13 functions by monitoring and analyzing the parameters of the systems
14 under an order and under the supervision of a licensed physician,
15 including, but not limited to:

16 (A) The use of extracorporeal circulation, long-term
17 cardiopulmonary support techniques including extracorporeal carbon-
18 dioxide removal and extracorporeal membrane oxygenation and
19 associated therapeutic and diagnostic technologies;

20 (B) Counterpulsation, ventricular assistance, autotransfusion, blood
21 conservation techniques, myocardial and organ preservation,
22 extracorporeal life support and isolated limb perfusion;

23 (C) The use of techniques involving blood management, advanced
24 life support and other related functions; and

25 (D) In the performance of the following activities:

26 (i) The administration of pharmacological and therapeutic agents, or
27 blood products or anesthetic agents through the extracorporeal circuit
28 or through an intravenous line as ordered by a physician;

29 (ii) The performance and use of anticoagulation monitoring and
30 analysis; physiologic monitoring and analysis; blood gas and
31 chemistry monitoring and analysis; hematologic monitoring and
32 analysis; hypothermia; hyperthermia; hemoconcentration and
33 hemodilution; or modified extracorporeal circulatory hemodialysis; or

34 (iii) The observation of signs and symptoms related to perfusion
35 services, the determination of whether the signs and symptoms exhibit
36 abnormal characteristics, and the implementation of appropriate
37 reporting, perfusion protocols, or changes in or the initiation of
38 emergency procedures.

39 (5) "Perfusionist" means a person who is licensed to practice
40 perfusion pursuant to the provisions of this act.

41 Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2002*) (a) No person shall practice
42 perfusion in this state unless the person holds a valid license from the
43 department to practice perfusion in this state. No person shall use the
44 title "perfusionist" or make use of any title, words, letters or

45 abbreviations that may reasonably be confused with licensure as a
46 perfusionist unless such person holds a valid license from the
47 department to practice perfusion in this state.

48 (b) Each person seeking licensure to practice perfusion in this state
49 shall make application on forms prescribed by the department, pay an
50 application fee of ____ dollars and present to the department
51 satisfactory evidence that such person (1) successfully completed a
52 perfusion education program with standards established by the
53 Accreditation Committee for Perfusion Education and approved by the
54 Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, or
55 a program with substantially equivalent standards approved by the
56 department, and (2) successfully completes the certification
57 examination offered by the American Board of Cardiovascular
58 Perfusion, or its successor, or a substantially equivalent examination
59 approved by the department. The commissioner shall grant a license as
60 a perfusionist to any applicant who meets the requirements of this
61 section.

62 (c) No license shall be issued under this section to any applicant
63 against whom professional disciplinary action is pending or who is the
64 subject of an unresolved complaint in this or any other state or
65 territory.

66 (d) Licenses shall be renewed annually in accordance with the
67 provisions of section 19a-88 of the general statutes, as amended, for a
68 fee of ____ dollars.

69 Sec. 3. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2002*) The Commissioner of Public
70 Health may take any disciplinary action set forth in section 19a-17 of
71 the general statutes, against a perfusionist for any of the following
72 reasons: (1) Failure to conform to the accepted standards of the
73 profession; (2) conviction of a felony; (3) fraud or deceit in obtaining or
74 seeking reinstatement of a license to practice perfusion; (4) fraud or
75 deceit in the practice of the profession; (5) negligent, incompetent or
76 wrongful conduct in professional activities; (6) physical, mental or

77 emotional illness or disorder resulting in an inability to conform to the
78 accepted standards of the profession; (7) alcohol or substance abuse;
79 (8) wilful falsification of entries in any hospital, patient or other record
80 pertaining to the profession; or (9) violation of any provision of
81 sections 1 to 3, inclusive, of this act. The commissioner may order a
82 license holder to submit to a reasonable physical or mental
83 examination if the physical or mental capacity of the license holder to
84 practice safely is the subject of an investigation. The commissioner may
85 petition the superior court for the judicial district of Hartford to
86 enforce such order or any action taken pursuant to said section 19a-17.
87 The commissioner shall give notice and an opportunity to be heard on
88 any contemplated action under said section 19a-17.

89 Sec. 4. Subsection (c) of section 19a-14 of the general statutes, as
90 amended by sections 2 and 3 of public act 01-4 of the June special
91 session, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
92 (*Effective October 1, 2002*):

93 (c) No board shall exist for the following professions that are
94 licensed or otherwise regulated by the Department of Public Health:

- 95 (1) Speech pathologist and audiologist;
- 96 (2) Hearing instrument specialist;
- 97 (3) Nursing home administrator;
- 98 (4) Sanitarian;
- 99 (5) Subsurface sewage system installer or cleaner;
- 100 (6) Marital and family therapist;
- 101 (7) Nurse-midwife;
- 102 (8) Licensed clinical social worker;
- 103 (9) Respiratory care practitioner;

- 104 (10) Asbestos contractor and asbestos consultant;
- 105 (11) Massage therapist;
- 106 (12) Registered nurse's aide;
- 107 (13) Radiographer;
- 108 (14) Dental hygienist;
- 109 (15) Dietitian-Nutritionist;
- 110 (16) Asbestos abatement worker;
- 111 (17) Asbestos abatement site supervisor;
- 112 (18) Licensed or certified alcohol and drug counselor;
- 113 (19) Professional counselor;
- 114 (20) Acupuncturist;
- 115 (21) Occupational therapist and occupational therapist assistant;
- 116 (22) Lead abatement contractor, lead consultant contractor, lead
117 consultant, lead abatement supervisor, lead abatement worker,
118 inspector and planner-project designer;
- 119 (23) Emergency medical technician, emergency medical technician-
120 intermediate, medical response technician and emergency medical
121 services instructor; [and]
- 122 (24) Paramedic; and
- 123 (25) Perfusionist.

124 The department shall assume all powers and duties normally vested
125 with a board in administering regulatory jurisdiction over such
126 professions. The uniform provisions of this chapter and chapters 368v,
127 369 to 381a, inclusive, 383 to 388, inclusive, 393a, 395, 398, 399, 400a

128 and 400c, including, but not limited to, standards for entry and
129 renewal; grounds for professional discipline; receiving and processing
130 complaints; and disciplinary sanctions, shall apply, except as otherwise
131 provided by law, to the professions listed in this subsection.

132 Sec. 5. Subsection (c) of section 19a-14 of the general statutes, as
133 amended by sections 2 and 3 of public act 01-4 of the June special
134 session, is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
135 (*Effective October 1, 2002, or the effective date of public act 00-226*):

136 (c) No board shall exist for the following professions that are
137 licensed or otherwise regulated by the Department of Public Health:

- 138 (1) Speech pathologist and audiologist;
- 139 (2) Hearing instrument specialist;
- 140 (3) Nursing home administrator;
- 141 (4) Sanitarian;
- 142 (5) Subsurface sewage system installer or cleaner;
- 143 (6) Marital and family therapist;
- 144 (7) Nurse-midwife;
- 145 (8) Licensed clinical social worker;
- 146 (9) Respiratory care practitioner;
- 147 (10) Asbestos contractor and asbestos consultant;
- 148 (11) Massage therapist;
- 149 (12) Registered nurse's aide;
- 150 (13) Radiographer;
- 151 (14) Dental hygienist;

- 152 (15) Dietitian-Nutritionist;
- 153 (16) Asbestos abatement worker;
- 154 (17) Asbestos abatement site supervisor;
- 155 (18) Licensed or certified alcohol and drug counselor;
- 156 (19) Professional counselor;
- 157 (20) Acupuncturist;
- 158 (21) Occupational therapist and occupational therapist assistant;
- 159 (22) Lead abatement contractor, lead consultant contractor, lead
160 consultant, lead abatement supervisor, lead abatement worker,
161 inspector and planner-project designer;
- 162 (23) Emergency medical technician, emergency medical technician-
163 intermediate, medical response technician and emergency medical
164 services instructor;
- 165 (24) Paramedic; [and]
- 166 (25) Perfusionist; and
- 167 ~~[(25)]~~ (26) Athletic trainer.

168 The department shall assume all powers and duties normally vested
169 with a board in administering regulatory jurisdiction over such
170 professions. The uniform provisions of this chapter and chapters 368v,
171 369 to 381a, inclusive, 383 to 388, inclusive, 393a, 395, 398, 399, 400a
172 and 400c, including, but not limited to, standards for entry and
173 renewal; grounds for professional discipline; receiving and processing
174 complaints; and disciplinary sanctions, shall apply, except as otherwise
175 provided by law, to the professions listed in this subsection.

This act shall take effect as follows:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 3	<i>October 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 4	<i>October 1, 2002</i>
Sec. 5	<i>October 1, 2002, or the effective date of public act 00-226</i>

Statement of Purpose:

To establish a license for perfusionists.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]