



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 393

February Session, 2006

Substitute House Bill No. 5477

House of Representatives, April 5, 2006

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. SAYERS of the 60th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS.

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

1 Section 1. Subdivision (7) of section 20-12a of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2006*):

4 (7) "Supervision" means the exercise by the supervising physician of
5 oversight, control and direction of the services of a physician assistant.
6 Supervision includes but is not limited to: (A) Continuous availability
7 of direct communication either in person or by radio, telephone or
8 telecommunications between the physician assistant and the
9 supervising physician; (B) active and continuing overview of the
10 physician assistant's activities to ensure that the supervising
11 physician's directions are being implemented and to support the
12 physician assistant in the performance of his services; (C) personal
13 review by the supervising physician of the physician assistant's
14 practice through a face-to-face meeting with the physician's assistant at

15 least weekly or more frequently as necessary to ensure quality patient
 16 care; (D) review of the charts and records of the physician assistant on
 17 a regular basis as necessary to ensure quality patient care and written
 18 documentation of such review by the supervising physician; (E)
 19 delineation of a predetermined plan for emergency situations; and (F)
 20 designation of an alternate licensed physician in the absence of the
 21 supervising physician.

22 Sec. 2. Subsection (b) of section 20-12c of the 2006 supplement to the
 23 general statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu
 24 thereof (*Effective October 1, 2006*):

25 (b) A physician may function as a supervising physician for as many
 26 physician assistants as is medically appropriate under the
 27 circumstances, provided (1) the supervision is active and direct, [and
 28 at the specific location in which the physician assistant is practicing,]
 29 and (2) the physician is supervising not more than six full-time
 30 physician assistants concurrently, or the part-time equivalent thereof.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	20-12a(7)
Sec. 2	<i>October 1, 2006</i>	20-12c(b)

PH *Joint Favorable Subst.*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

No fiscal impact will result in response to passage of this bill.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5477****AN ACT CONCERNING THE SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS.****SUMMARY:**

This bill revises the supervision requirements for physician assistants (PAs). By law, each PA must have a clearly identified supervising physician who has final responsibility for patient care and the PA's performance. A physician may supervise up to six full-time PAs concurrently or the equivalent part-time number, if medically appropriate. The bill eliminates a requirement that the supervision be at the specific location where the PA is practicing.

Current law requires the supervising physician to personally review the PA's practice at least weekly or more frequently as needed to ensure quality care. The bill requires that this be done through a face-to-face meeting. It also requires that the supervising physician document in writing his already required regular review of the PA's charts and records.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2006

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 24 Nay 2 (03/20/2006)