

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to physician assistants; amending ss.
 3 458.347 and 459.022, F.S.; revising licensure renewal
 4 requirements to include a physician assistant survey;
 5 requiring the Department of Health to issue a
 6 nondisciplinary citation to a physician assistant who
 7 fails to complete the survey; requiring rulemaking;
 8 providing requirements relating to designated
 9 supervising physicians; revising membership of the
 10 Council on Physician Assistants; providing an
 11 effective date.

12
 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
 14

15 Section 1. Paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (7) and
 16 paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (9) of section 458.347,
 17 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

18 458.347 Physician assistants.—

19 (7) PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LICENSURE.—

20 (b) The license must be renewed biennially. Each renewal
 21 must include:

- 22 1. A renewal fee not to exceed \$500 as set by the boards.
- 23 2. Acknowledgment of no felony convictions in the previous
- 24 2 years.
- 25 3. Completion of a physician assistant survey developed

26 and conducted by the department that includes information on the
27 availability of and trends relating to critically needed
28 services, licensee information, and an acknowledgement that the
29 information provided in the survey is true and accurate to the
30 best of the licensee's knowledge and does not contain any
31 knowingly false information.

32 a. Licensee information must include, but is not limited
33 to:

34 (I) The name of the approved program at which the
35 physician assistant received his or her education and training
36 and the year he or she graduated from such program.

37 (II) The geographic location of the physician assistant's
38 practice and the number of years he or she has practiced in such
39 location.

40 (III) Information relating to the physician assistant and
41 his or her practice, including, but not limited to, practice
42 setting, percentage of time spent in direct patient care, areas
43 of specialty, salary, and whether the physician assistant has
44 full or partial ownership in his or her practice.

45 b.(I) The department shall issue a nondisciplinary
46 citation to a physician assistant licensed under this chapter or
47 chapter 459 who fails to complete the physician assistant survey
48 within 90 days after the renewal of his or her license.

49 (II) The citation must notify a physician assistant who
50 fails to complete the physician assistant survey that his or her

51 license is not eligible for any subsequent license renewal until
52 he or she completes such survey.

53 c. In conjunction with the issuance of the license renewal
54 notice required by s. 456.038, the department shall notify, at
55 his or her last known address, each physician assistant who has
56 failed to complete the physician assistant survey of the
57 requirement to complete such survey. The department may not
58 renew the license of a physician assistant until he or she
59 completes such survey.

60 d. The department shall adopt rules pursuant to ss.
61 120.536(1) and 120.54 necessary to implement this subparagraph.

62 (d)1. Upon employment as a physician assistant, a licensed
63 physician assistant must notify the department in writing within
64 30 days after such employment or after any subsequent changes in
65 the supervising physician. The notification must include the
66 full name, Florida medical license number, specialty, and
67 address of a designated ~~the~~ supervising physician. A physician
68 assistant shall report any subsequent changes in the designated
69 supervising physician to the department within 30 days after the
70 change. The assignment of a designated supervising physician
71 does not preclude a physician assistant from practicing under
72 the supervision of a physician other than the designated
73 supervising physician.

74 2. A designated supervising physician shall be a physician
75 designated by a facility or practice to be the primary contact

76 and supervising physician for the physician assistants in a
 77 practice in which physician assistants are supervised by
 78 multiple physicians. The designated supervising physician shall
 79 maintain a list of all approved supervising physicians at the
 80 facility or practice, including each physician's name and area
 81 of practice, and shall update the list as needed. The designated
 82 supervising physician shall provide the list to the department
 83 in a timely manner upon written request.

84 (9) COUNCIL ON PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS.—The Council on
 85 Physician Assistants is created within the department.

86 (a) The council shall consist of five members appointed as
 87 follows:

88 1. The chairperson of the Board of Medicine shall appoint
 89 one member ~~three members~~ who is a physician ~~are physicians~~ and a
 90 member ~~members~~ of the Board of Medicine. ~~One of~~ The physician
 91 appointed by the Board of Medicine ~~physicians~~ must supervise a
 92 physician assistant in the physician's practice.

93 2. The chairperson of the Board of Osteopathic Medicine
 94 shall appoint one member who is a physician and a member of the
 95 Board of Osteopathic Medicine. The physician appointed by the
 96 Board of Osteopathic Medicine must supervise a physician
 97 assistant in the physician's practice.

98 3. The State Surgeon General or his or her designee shall
 99 appoint three ~~a~~ fully licensed physician assistants ~~assistant~~
 100 licensed under this chapter or chapter 459.

101 (b) ~~Two of the members appointed to the council must be~~
 102 ~~physicians who supervise physician assistants in their practice.~~
 103 Members shall be appointed to terms of 4 years, except that of
 104 the initial appointments, two members shall be appointed to
 105 terms of 2 years, two members shall be appointed to terms of 3
 106 years, and one member shall be appointed to a term of 4 years,
 107 as established by rule of the boards. Council members may not
 108 serve more than two consecutive terms. The council shall
 109 annually elect a chairperson from among its members.

110 Section 2. Paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (7) and
 111 paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (9) of section 459.022,
 112 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

113 459.022 Physician assistants.—

114 (7) PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LICENSURE.—

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 116 must include:

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 119 2 years.

120 3. Completion of a physician assistant survey developed
 121 and conducted by the department that includes information on the
 122 availability of and trends relating to critically needed
 123 services, licensee information, and an acknowledgement that the
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131 and the year he or she graduated from such program.

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134 location.

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165 change. The assignment of a designated supervising physician
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169 2. A designated supervising physician shall be a physician
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171 and supervising physician for the physician assistants in a
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185 member ~~members~~ of the Board of Medicine. ~~One of~~ The physician
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188 2. The chairperson of the Board of Osteopathic Medicine
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202 | as established by rule of the boards. Council members may not
203 | serve more than two consecutive terms. The council shall
204 | annually elect a chairperson from among its members.

205 | Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2017.