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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to surgical technology; amending s.
3 395.0191, F.S.; requiring licensed facilities to
4 establish policies and procedures for the employment
5 of surgical technologists; providing a definition;
6 providing educational and credentialing requirements;
7 providing exceptions; providing an effective date.
8

9 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
10

11 Section 1. Paragraph (e) is added to subsection (2) of
12 section 395.0191, Florida Statutes, to read:

13 395.0191 Staff membership and clinical privileges.—

14 (2)

15 (e) Each licensed facility shall establish policies and
16 procedures for the employment of surgical technologists.

17 1. For purposes of this paragraph, "surgical technologist"
18 means a person who assists and practices under the supervision
19 of a surgeon to ensure that the operating room environment is
20 safe, that proper equipment is available, and that the operative
21 procedure is conducted efficiently, provided that nothing in
22 this subparagraph alters or affects any other law related to the
23 supervision of surgical technologists. Surgical technologist
24 duties include, but are not limited to, maintaining sterility
25 during a surgical procedure, handling and ensuring the
26 availability of necessary equipment and supplies, and
27 maintaining visibility of the operative site.

28 2. The licensed facility may consider for such employment
29 only a person who:

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30 a. Has successfully completed a surgical technologist
31 training program accredited by the Accrediting Bureau of Health
32 Education Schools or the Commission on Accreditation of Allied
33 Health Education Programs; and

34 b. Holds certification as a surgical technologist from an
35 organization recognized by the National Commission for
36 Certifying Agencies. Such certification must be maintained
37 throughout employment at the facility;

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39 unless the licensed facility continuously employs a person who
40 is working as a surgical technologist on October 1, 2012, or
41 uses a licensed practitioner subject to chapter 456 or a student
42 as a surgical technologist, and such practitioner or student is
43 appropriately trained and only performs duties within his or her
44 scope of practice.

45 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2012.