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HOUSE BILL 2915

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State of Washington                      52nd Legislature                      1992 Regular Session

By Representatives Moyer, Brumsickle, Paris and Miller

Read first time 01/31/92. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1            AN ACT Relating to the use of physician's assistants by licensed  
2 physicians and licensed osteopathic physicians; and amending RCW  
3 18.71A.020 and 18.57A.020.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5            **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.71A.020 and 1990 c 196 s 2 are each amended to read  
6 as follows:

7            (1) The board shall adopt rules fixing the qualifications and the  
8 educational and training requirements for persons who may be employed  
9 as physician assistants or who may be enrolled in any physician  
10 assistant training program. The requirements shall include completion  
11 of an accredited physician assistant training program approved by the  
12 board and eligibility to take an examination approved by the board,  
13 provided such examination tests subjects substantially equivalent to  
14 the curriculum of an accredited physician assistant training program.

1 Physician assistants licensed by the board on June 7, 1990, shall  
2 continue to be licensed.

3 (2)(a) The board shall adopt rules governing the extent to which:

4 (i) Physician assistant students may practice medicine during  
5 training; (~~and~~)

6 (ii) Physician assistants may practice after successful completion  
7 of a physician assistant training course; and

8 (iii) The use of a physician's assistant is allowed under the  
9 supervision and control of an osteopathic physician licensed under  
10 chapter 18.57 RCW.

11 (b) Such rules shall provide:

12 (i) That the practice of a physician assistant shall be limited to  
13 the performance of those services for which he or she is trained; and

14 (ii) That each physician assistant shall practice medicine only  
15 under the supervision and control of a physician licensed in this  
16 state, but such supervision and control shall not be construed to  
17 necessarily require the personal presence of the supervising physician  
18 at the place where services are rendered.

19 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.57A.020 and 1971 ex.s. c 30 s 8 are each amended to  
20 read as follows:

21 The board shall adopt rules and regulations fixing the  
22 qualifications and the educational and training requirements for  
23 persons who may be employed as osteopathic physician's assistants or  
24 who may be enrolled in any physician's training program.

25 The board shall, in addition, adopt rules and regulations governing  
26 the extent to which physician's assistants may practice medicine during  
27 training and after successful completion of a training course. Such  
28 regulations shall provide:

1 (1) That the practice of an osteopathic physician's assistant shall  
2 be limited to the performance of those services for which he or she is  
3 trained; (~~and~~)

4 (2) That each osteopathic physician's assistant shall practice  
5 medicine only under the supervision and control of an osteopathic  
6 physician licensed in this state, but such supervision and control  
7 shall not be construed to necessarily require the personal presence of  
8 the supervising physician at the place where services are rendered; and

9 (3) For the use of an osteopathic physician's assistant under the  
10 supervision and control of a physician licensed under chapter 18.71  
11 RCW.