

SB 108

State Medical Board

By request from the State Medical Board

Senator Cathy Giessel

Purpose

- 1. Streamline Physician Licensing**
- 2. Need for office assistants**
 - a. Unlicensed**
 - b. Licensed**

1. Streamline MD licensing

Section 1, 2, 8, 9, 10

State Medical Board to write regulations to delegate to EXECUTIVE SECRETARY:

1. review applications and grant license if requirements are met
2. review applications and issue temporary license if requirements are met
3. grant certification if requirements are met
4. spells out prohibitions to this delegated authority

1. Streamline MD licensing

Section 10, 11

1. Allows another person, designated by the board, to help the Executive Secretary to issue temporary license.
2. Outlines when this could happen

2.a. Unlicensed Assistive Personnel

Unlicensed personnel
trained in “routine medical tasks”

Section 3 Regulations will

- authorize delegation to unlicensed person
- prohibit delegation of pain management or opioid related activities
- define “routine medical tasks”

2.a. Unlicensed Personnel

“medical assistants”

Section 6

adds person, performing **delegated “routine medical duties”** to exception under “License to practice medicine, podiatry, or osteopathy”

Section 12

Adds “**medical assistant**” to list to practice medicine

Section 14

adds “**medical assistants**” to definition of “**medical professional**” under Title 12 Criminal Procedure

2.b. Medical assistants - license/certification

Why?

Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP)

- ~prohibits access by any unlicensed person
- ~envisioned clinician delegates “look up” before prescribing

Problem

- ~No licensed people in MD clinic, other than the MD
- ~Frequent need to check PDMP (AS 17.30.200 requires license).

2.b. Medical assistants - license/certification

Solution - recognize training and certification

Training programs accredited by

- Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)
- Accrediting Bureau of Health Education Schools (ABHES)

National exams for Certification

Alaska's community colleges training programs

Recognized in many other states/territories.

WA, CA, TX, FL, PA, OH, IL, MT, MS, ND, SD, WY

2.b. Medical assistant with certification process

Section 4

Certifying process defined in regulation by Board

Section 5

Limits use of term “certified”

Section 13

Certification is equivalent to a license

Urgent need for SB 108

Efficient, expeditious and effective licensing of MDs

Legal clarity for delegation of “routine medical duties” to unlicensed personnel (medical assistants)

More legally stringent delegated activities to licensed entity, a medical assistant who has achieved certification

Urgent need for SB 108

These changes needed this session

SUPPORT:

State Medical Board (requested)

Dept of Commerce

Alaska State Hospital and Nursing Home
Association

Alaska State Medical Association

Foundation Health Partners (Fairbanks)

No opposition