

HOUSE BILL 766

By Lollar

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-11-239, relative to central service technicians.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-11-239, is amended by deleting subdivision (a)(4) in its entirety and substituting instead the following:

(4) "Healthcare provider" means a person that provides healthcare services and is registered, certified, or licensed in accordance with title 63 and is under the division of health-related boards.

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-11-239(c), is amended by deleting the first sentence and substituting instead the following:

A person who qualifies to practice as a central service technician in a healthcare institution under subsection (b) shall complete a minimum of ten (10) hours of continuing education annually.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-11-239, is further amended by deleting subdivisions (d)(3) and (4) in their entireties and substituting instead the following:

(3) A diagnostic medical sonographer while performing the duties of a sonographer;

(4) A student or intern performing the functions of a central service technician under the direct supervision of a person authorized under subdivision (d)(1), (d)(2), or (d)(3) as part of the student's or intern's training or internship; or

(5) A person who does not work in a central service department in a healthcare institution, but who has been specially trained and determined competent, based on standards set by a healthcare institution's infection prevention or control committee,

acting in consultation with a central service technician certified in accordance with subsection (b), to decontaminate or sterilize reusable medical equipment, instruments, or devices, in a manner that meets applicable manufacturer's instructions and standards.

SECTION 4. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-11-239(e), is amended by deleting the language "subsection (d)" wherever it appears and substituting instead the language "subdivision (d)(5)".

SECTION 5. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 68-11-239, is further amended by adding the following as a new subsection (f) and redesignating the subsequent subsection accordingly:

(f)

(1) For any person practicing as a central service technician at a healthcare institution pursuant to subdivision (b)(1)(A), the healthcare institution shall maintain documentation that the person meets all requirements of subdivision (b)(1)(A).

(2) For any person practicing as a central service technician at a healthcare institution pursuant to subdivision (b)(1)(B), the healthcare institution shall maintain documentation of the dates for which the person was employed or otherwise contracted for services as a central services technician in the healthcare institution to verify that the person meets all requirements of subdivision (b)(1)(B).

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.