

SENATE BILL 1997

By Bowling

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;
Title 7; Title 33; Title 63 and Title 68, relative to
surgical smoke.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 68, Chapter 11, Part 2, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Surgical smoke" means the gaseous by-product produced by energy-generating devices, including surgical plume, smoke plume, bio-aerosols, laser-generated airborne contaminants, or lung-damaging dust; and

(2) "Surgical smoke evacuation system" means equipment and technologies designed to capture and neutralize, or eliminate, surgical smoke at the point of origin and before the surgical smoke makes contact with the eyes or the respiratory tract of the occupants of the room.

(b) By July 1, 2021, each hospital with surgical services, and each ambulatory surgical treatment center, operating in this state shall adopt and implement a policy that prevents human exposure to surgical smoke by the use of a surgical smoke evacuation system during any planned surgical procedure that is likely to generate surgical smoke.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.