
HOUSE BILL 2315

State of Washington

62nd Legislature

2012 Regular Session

By Representative Cody

Read first time 01/11/12. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to physician assistants; amending RCW 18.57A.030,
2 18.57A.040, 18.57A.080, 18.71A.030, and 18.71A.090; reenacting and
3 amending RCW 18.71A.040; and repealing RCW 18.71A.045.

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

5 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.57A.030 and 1993 c 28 s 2 are each amended to read
6 as follows:

7 An osteopathic physician assistant as defined in this chapter may
8 practice osteopathic medicine in this state only (~~with the approval of~~
9 ~~the practice arrangement plan by the board and only to the extent~~
10 ~~permitted by the board~~) when supervised by a licensed osteopathic
11 physician and only after a delegation agreement has been completed and
12 signed by both the physician assistant and one or more supervising
13 physicians. An osteopathic physician assistant who has received a
14 license but who (~~has not received board approval of the practice~~
15 ~~arrangement plan under RCW 18.57A.040~~) does not have a delegation
16 agreement with a supervising osteopathic physician may not practice.
17 An osteopathic physician assistant shall be subject to discipline by
18 the board under the provisions of chapter 18.130 RCW.

1 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.57A.040 and 1993 c 28 s 3 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 (1) No osteopathic physician assistant practicing in this state
4 shall be employed or supervised by an osteopathic physician or
5 physician group without the approval of the board.

6 (2) Prior to commencing practice, an osteopathic physician
7 assistant licensed in this state shall ~~((apply to the board for
8 permission to be employed or supervised by an osteopathic physician or
9 physician group. The practice arrangement plan shall be jointly
10 submitted by the osteopathic physician or physician group and
11 osteopathic physician assistant. The secretary may charge a fee as
12 provided in RCW 43.70.250 to recover the cost for the plan review. The
13 practice arrangement plan))~~ enter into a delegation agreement with one
14 or more supervising osteopathic physicians. The delegation agreement
15 shall delineate the manner and extent to which the physician assistant
16 would practice and be supervised. The delegation agreement must be
17 kept on file at the practice and made available to the board or its
18 representative upon request. Whenever an osteopathic physician
19 assistant is practicing in a manner inconsistent with the ~~((approved
20 practice arrangement plan))~~ delegation agreement, the board may take
21 disciplinary action under chapter 18.130 RCW.

22 (3) An osteopathic physician may enter into delegation agreements
23 with multiple osteopathic physician assistants. The board may not
24 limit the number of delegation agreements into which an osteopathic
25 physician may enter.

26 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.57A.080 and 2007 c 264 s 2 are each amended to read
27 as follows:

28 An osteopathic physician~~((+s))~~ assistant may sign and attest to any
29 certificates, cards, forms, or other required documentation that the
30 osteopathic physician~~((+s))~~ assistant's supervising osteopathic
31 physician or osteopathic physician group may sign, provided that it is
32 within the osteopathic physician~~((+s))~~ assistant's scope of practice
33 and is consistent with the terms of the osteopathic physician~~((+s))~~
34 assistant's ~~((practice arrangement plan))~~ delegation agreement as
35 required by this chapter.

1 **Sec. 4.** RCW 18.71A.030 and 1994 sp.s. c 9 s 320 are each amended
2 to read as follows:

3 A physician assistant may practice medicine in this state only
4 (~~with the approval of the practice arrangement plan by the commission~~
5 ~~and only to the extent permitted by the commission~~) when supervised by
6 a licensed physician and only after a delegation agreement has been
7 completed and signed by both the physician assistant and one or more
8 supervising physicians. A physician assistant who has received a
9 license but who (~~has not received commission approval of the practice~~
10 ~~arrangement plan under RCW 18.71A.040~~) does not have a delegation
11 agreement with a supervising physician may not practice. A physician
12 assistant shall be subject to discipline under chapter 18.130 RCW.

13 **Sec. 5.** RCW 18.71A.040 and 1996 c 191 s 58 and 1996 c 191 s 40 are
14 each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

15 (1) No physician assistant practicing in this state shall be
16 employed or supervised by a physician or physician group without the
17 approval of the commission.

18 (2) Prior to commencing practice, a physician assistant licensed in
19 this state shall (~~apply to the commission for permission to be~~
20 ~~employed or supervised by a physician or physician group. The practice~~
21 ~~arrangement plan shall be jointly submitted by the physician or~~
22 ~~physician group and physician assistant. Administrative procedures,~~
23 ~~administrative requirements, and fees shall be established as provided~~
24 ~~in RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280. The practice arrangement plan~~) enter
25 into a delegation agreement with one or more supervising physicians.
26 The delegation agreement shall delineate the manner and extent to which
27 the physician assistant would practice and be supervised. The
28 delegation agreement must be kept on file at the practice and made
29 available to the commission or its representative upon request.
30 Whenever a physician assistant is practicing in a manner inconsistent
31 with the (~~approved practice arrangement plan~~) delegation agreement,
32 the commission may take disciplinary action under chapter 18.130 RCW.

33 (3) A physician may enter into delegation agreements with multiple
34 physician assistants. The commission may not limit the number of
35 delegation agreements into which a physician may enter.

1 **Sec. 6.** RCW 18.71A.090 and 2007 c 264 s 3 are each amended to read
2 as follows:

3 A physician assistant may sign and attest to any certificates,
4 cards, forms, or other required documentation that the physician
5 assistant's supervising physician or physician group may sign, provided
6 that it is within the physician assistant's scope of practice and is
7 consistent with the terms of the physician assistant's (~~practice~~
8 ~~arrangement plan~~) delegation agreement as required by this chapter.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** RCW 18.71A.045 (Eligibility of foreign
10 medical school graduates) and 1994 sp.s. c 9 s 322 & 1988 c 113 s 2 are
11 each repealed.

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