

1 SENATE BILL 383

2 **55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2021**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Martin Hickey and Meredith Dixon

5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10 AN ACT

11 RELATING TO ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS; REQUIRING THE NEW  
12 MEXICO MEDICAL BOARD TO ADOPT RULES THAT INCREASE THE NUMBER OF  
13 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS THAT AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST MAY  
14 SUPERVISE; REPEALING LAWS 2015, CHAPTER 52, SECTION 3.

15  
16 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

17 SECTION 1. Section 61-6-10.9 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 2001,  
18 Chapter 311, Section 9, as amended) is amended to read:

19 "61-6-10.9. RULES.--

20 A. The board may adopt and enforce reasonable  
21 rules:

22 (1) for setting qualifications of education,  
23 skill and experience for licensure of a person as an  
24 anesthesiologist assistant;

25 (2) for providing procedures and forms for

.218616.2

underscored material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 licensure and annual registration;

2 (3) for examining and evaluating applicants  
3 for licensure as an anesthesiologist assistant regarding the  
4 required skill, knowledge and experience in developing and  
5 implementing anesthesia care plans under supervision;

6 (4) for allowing a supervising  
7 anesthesiologist to temporarily delegate supervisory  
8 responsibilities for an anesthesiologist assistant to another  
9 anesthesiologist;

10 (5) for allowing an anesthesiologist assistant  
11 to temporarily serve under the supervision of an  
12 anesthesiologist other than the supervising anesthesiologist  
13 with whom the anesthesiologist assistant is registered; and

14 (6) to carry out the provisions of the  
15 Anesthesiologist Assistants Act.

16 B. The board shall not adopt a rule allowing an  
17 anesthesiologist assistant to perform procedures outside the  
18 anesthesiologist assistant's scope of practice.

19 C. The board shall adopt rules:

20 (1) establishing requirements for  
21 anesthesiologist assistant licensing, including:

22 (a) completion of a graduate level  
23 training program accredited by the commission on accreditation  
24 of allied health education programs;

25 (b) successful completion of a

underscoring material = new  
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 certifying examination for anesthesiologist assistants  
2 administered by the national commission for the certification  
3 of anesthesiologist assistants; and

4 (c) current certification by the  
5 American heart association in advanced cardiac life-support  
6 techniques;

7 (2) establishing minimum requirements for  
8 continuing education of not less than forty hours every two  
9 years;

10 (3) requiring adequate identification of the  
11 anesthesiologist assistant to patients and others;

12 (4) requiring the presence, except in cases of  
13 emergency, and the documentation of the presence, of the  
14 supervising anesthesiologist in the operating room during  
15 induction of a general or regional anesthetic and during  
16 emergence from a general anesthetic, the presence of the  
17 supervising anesthesiologist within the operating suite and  
18 immediate availability to the operating room at other times  
19 when the anesthetic procedure is being performed and requiring  
20 that the anesthesiologist assistant comply with the above  
21 restrictions;

22 (5) requiring the supervising anesthesiologist  
23 to ensure that all activities, functions, services and  
24 treatment measures are properly documented in written form by  
25 the anesthesiologist assistant. The anesthesia record shall be

.218616.2

underscoring material = new  
[bracketed material] = delete

1 reviewed, countersigned and dated by the supervising  
2 anesthesiologist;

3 (6) requiring the anesthesiologist assistant  
4 to inform the supervising anesthesiologist of serious adverse  
5 events;

6 (7) establishing, with respect to practice  
7 outside of a university in New Mexico with a medical school,  
8 that the number of anesthesiologist assistants a supervising  
9 anesthesiologist may supervise at one time, except in emergency  
10 cases, shall not exceed [~~three~~] four anesthesiologist  
11 assistants;

12 (8) establishing, with respect to practice at  
13 a university in New Mexico with a medical school, that an  
14 anesthesiologist shall not supervise, except in emergency  
15 cases, more than four anesthesia providers if at least one  
16 anesthesia provider is an anesthesiologist assistant; and

17 (9) within twelve months of the date on which  
18 the Anesthesiologist Assistants Act becomes effective,  
19 providing for enhanced supervision at the commencement of an  
20 anesthesiologist assistant's practice."

21 SECTION 2. REPEAL.--Laws 2015, Chapter 52, Section 3 is  
22 repealed.