

1 State of Arkansas
2 91st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2017
4

As Engrossed: H3/14/17

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2230

5 By: Representative Hammer
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO REQUIRE CIRCULATING NURSES IN OPERATING
9 ROOMS OF HOSPITALS AND AMBULATORY SURGERY CENTERS;
10 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
11

Subtitle

12
13
14 TO REQUIRE CIRCULATING NURSES IN
15 OPERATING ROOMS OF HOSPITALS AND
16 AMBULATORY SURGERY CENTERS.
17

18
19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
20

21 *SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 9, Subchapter 1, is amended*
22 *to add an additional section to read as follows:*

23 20-9-104. Circulating nurses required in operating rooms –
24 Definitions.

25 (a) As used in this section:

26 (1) "Circulating nurse" means a registered nurse who is licensed
27 to practice in the state and who is trained in perioperative nursing; and

28 (2) "Perioperative nursing" means a specialized area of nursing
29 practice that involves the planning, coordination, delivery, and evaluation
30 of nursing care to patients whose protective reflexes or self-care abilities
31 are potentially compromised during surgical procedures.

32 (b) To enhance patient safety and protection, a hospital or an
33 ambulatory surgery center licensed in this state shall adopt policies and
34 procedures to:

35 (1) Require a circulating nurse to be:

36 (A) Assigned to an operating room for every procedure; and



1 (B) Present for the duration of the procedure unless the
2 procedure requires the circulating nurse to leave the operating room as part
3 of the procedure, the circulating nurse is relieved by another circulating
4 nurse, or an exceptional emergency situation exists; and

5 (2) Coordinate the nursing care and safety needs of the patient
6 in the operating room.

7
8
9 /s/Hammer
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36