

1 State of Arkansas

2 80th General Assembly

3 Regular Session, 1995

4 By: Representative Ferguson

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For An Act To Be Entitled

8 "AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF MEDICAL ASSISTANTS BY
9 PHYSICIANS LICENSED BY THE ARKANSAS STATE MEDICAL BOARD;
10 AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

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Subtitle

13 "AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE USE OF MEDICAL
14 ASSISTANTS BY PHYSICIANS LICENSED BY THE
15 ARKANSAS STATE MEDICAL BOARD"

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17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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19 SECTION 1. Definition. As used in this act, "medical assistant" means
20 a professional multiskilled person dedicated to assisting in all aspects of
21 medical practice under the direct responsibility of a physician licensed to
22 practice medicine by the Arkansas State Medical Board. This practitioner
23 assists with patient care management, executes administrative and clinical
24 procedures, and often performs managerial and supervisory functions.
25 Competence in the field also requires that a medical assistant adhere to
26 ethical and legal standards of professional practice, recognize and respond
27 to emergencies and demonstrate professional characteristics.

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29 SECTION 2. Duties. Under the direct responsibility of a licensed
30 physician the duties of a medical assistant are to:

31 (a) Perform clinical procedures, to include:

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(1) Assist with aseptic procedures;

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(2) Taking vital signs;

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(3) Preparing patients for the physician_s care;

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(4) Venipunctures and nonintravenous injections, limited to

1 subcutaneous and intranocula injections;

2 (5) Observing and reporting patients_ signs or symptoms;

3 (b) Administering basic first aid.

4 (c) Assist with patient examinations or treatments.

5 (d) Operating office medical equipment.

6 (e) Collecting routine laboratory specimens as directed by the
7 physician.

8 (f) Administer medication as directed by the physician.

9 (g) Perform basic laboratory procedures as permitted by federal law.

10 (h) Perform office procedures including all general administrative
11 duties required by the physician.

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13 SECTION 3. Certification. Medical assistants may be certified by the
14 American Association of Medical Assistants or as a Registered Medical
15 Assistant by the American Society of Medical Technologists.

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17 SECTION 4. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent
18 nature are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas
19 Code Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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21 SECTION 5. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
22 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
23 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
24 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
25 act are declared to be severable.

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27 SECTION 6. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are
28 hereby repealed.

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