

# VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2001 SESSION

## CHAPTER 61

*An Act to amend and reenact §§ 54.1-2957.5 and 54.1-2957.6 of the Code of Virginia, relating to athletic trainers.*

[H 2516]

Approved March 2, 2001

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That §§ 54.1-2957.5 and 54.1-2957.6 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 54.1-2957.5. Advisory Board on Athletic Training established; duties; composition; appointment; terms.

A. The Advisory Board on Athletic Training shall assist the Board in formulating its requirements for the certification of athletic trainers. In the exercise of this responsibility, the Advisory Board shall recommend to the Board the criteria for certification of athletic trainers and the standards of professional conduct for certificate holders. The Advisory Board shall also assist in such other matters relating to the practice of athletic training as the Board may require.

B. The Advisory Board shall consist of five members appointed by the Governor for four-year terms. The first appointments shall provide for staggered terms with two members being appointed for a two-year term, two members being appointed for a three-year term and one member being appointed for a four-year term. Three members shall be at the time of appointment athletic trainers *who are currently certified by the Board and* who have practiced in Virginia for not less than three years, including one athletic trainer practicing at a secondary school, one practicing at an institution of higher education, and one practicing in a nonacademic environment. One member shall be a physician licensed to practice medicine in the Commonwealth and one member shall be a citizen appointed by the Governor from the Commonwealth at large.

Vacancies occurring other than by expiration of term shall be filled for the unexpired term. No person shall be eligible to serve on the Advisory Board for more than two full consecutive terms.

§ 54.1-2957.6. Exceptions to athletic trainer certification.

A. ~~The requirements for certification of athletic trainers shall not prohibit the recognition, evaluation, and treatment of injuries or conditions related to physical activity immediately upon the onset of such injury or condition, or the prevention of injuries or conditions, by provisions of this section shall not be construed to prohibit any individual from providing first aid, nor any coach, physical education instructor or other person from conducting or assisting with exercise or conditioning programs or classes within the scope of their duties as employees or volunteers; nor shall the.~~

B. ~~The requirements for certification of athletic trainers shall not prevent student athletic trainers from practicing athletic training under the supervision and control of a certified athletic trainer pursuant to regulations promulgated by the Board or a person who is otherwise exempt from the athletic certification requirements.~~

~~B.~~ C. Notwithstanding the provisions of §§ 54.1-2957.4 and 54.1-2957.5, any person who, prior to June 30, 1999, is employed in Virginia as an athletic trainer, or in the performance of his employment duties engages in the practice of athletic training, shall not be required to obtain a certificate from the Board to continue to be so employed until July 1, 2002.