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**HOUSE BILL NO. 2163**

Offered January 14, 2009

Prefiled January 14, 2009

*A BILL to amend and reenact § 54.1-2957.9 of the Code of Virginia, relating to regulation of practice of midwifery.*

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Patron—Lohr

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Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:****1. That § 54.1-2957.9 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 54.1-2957.9. Regulation of the practice of midwifery.

The Board shall adopt regulations governing the practice of midwifery, upon consultation with the Advisory Board on Midwifery. The regulations shall (i) address the requirements for licensure to practice midwifery, including the establishment of standards of care, (ii) be consistent with the North American Registry of Midwives' current job description for the profession and the National Association of Certified Professional Midwives' standards of practice, except that prescriptive authority and the possession and administration of controlled substances shall be prohibited, (iii) ensure independent practice, (iv) *require midwives to disclose to their patients information on health risks associated with home deliveries including but not limited to special risks associated with vaginal births after a prior C-section, breach births, births by women experiencing high-risk pregnancies, and births of twins or multiples*, (v) provide for an appropriate license fee, and ~~(v)~~(vi) include requirements for licensure renewal and continuing education. Such regulations shall not (a) require any agreement, written or otherwise, with another health care professional or (b) require the assessment of a woman who is seeking midwifery services by another health care professional.

License renewal shall be contingent upon maintaining a Certified Professional Midwife certification.

INTRODUCED

HB2163