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HOUSE BILL NO. 601

Offered January 13, 2010

Prefiled January 12, 2010

A *BILL to amend the Code of Virginia by adding in Article 4 of Chapter 29 of Title 54.1 sections numbered 54.1-2957.14 and 54.1-2957.15, relating to registration of medical laboratory scientists and medical laboratory technicians.*

 Patron—O'Bannon

 Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That the Code of Virginia is amended by adding in Article 4 of Chapter 29 of Title 54.1 sections numbered 54.1-2957.14 and 54.1-2957.15 as follows:

§ 54.1-2957.14. Medical laboratory scientist and medical laboratory technician; definitions.

"Medical laboratory scientist" means a person who meets the requirements for registration as a medical laboratory scientist with the Board, and who engages in the development, performance, interpretation, and evaluation of laboratory tests in such areas as hematology, clinical chemistry, immunohematology, microbiology, serology/immunology, coagulation, molecular, and other emerging diagnostics.

"Medical laboratory technician" means a person who meets the requirements for registration as a medical laboratory technician with the Board, and who performs laboratory tests in such areas as hematology, clinical chemistry, immunohematology, microbiology, serology/immunology, coagulation, molecular, and other emerging diagnostics.

§ 54.1-2957.15. Registration as medical laboratory scientist or medical laboratory technician.

A. It shall be unlawful for a person to practice or hold himself out as practicing as a medical laboratory scientist or medical laboratory technician, or to engage in activities defined as constituting the practice of a person required to be registered as a medical laboratory scientists or medical laboratory technician as provided in regulations adopted by the Board, unless he has registered with the Board.

B. Every applicant for registration as a medical laboratory scientist shall pay the required fee and shall submit written evidence that the applicant:

1. Has received a baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited college or university;
 2. Has satisfactorily completed a program of experience and training required by the American Society of Clinical Pathology Board of Certification, American Medical Technologists, or other nationally recognized certification agency; and

3. Has passed a certification examination administered by the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Registry, the American Medical Technologists, or other nationally recognized credentialing agency.

C. Every applicant for registration as a medical laboratory technician shall pay the required fee and shall submit written evidence that the applicant:

1. Has received an associates degree or higher from a regionally accredited college or university;
 2. Has satisfactorily completed a program of experience and training required by the American Society of Clinical Pathology Board of Certification, American Medical Technologists, or other nationally recognized certification agency; and

3. Has passed a certification examination administered by the American Society for Clinical Pathology Board of Registry, the American Medical Technologists, or other nationally recognized credentialing agency.

D. The Board shall adopt regulations to implement the provisions of this section.

2. That the Board of Medicine shall waive requirements related to receipt of the required baccalaureate or associates degree, satisfactory completion of an approved program of experience and training, and successful completion of a certification examination for persons seeking registration as a medical laboratory scientist or medical laboratory technician for any person who (i) makes application for registration before July 1, 2011; (ii) otherwise complies with regulations of the Board relating to moral turpitude; and (iii) has at least three years documented work experience as a medical laboratory scientist or medical laboratory technician.

INTRODUCED

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