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HOUSE BILL NO. 1541

Offered January 14, 2015

Prefiled January 6, 2015

A BILL to amend and reenact § 54.1-2900 of the Code of Virginia, relating to the definition of birth control.

Patrons—Watts and Spruill

Referred to Committee for Courts of Justice

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**1. That § 54.1-2900 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:****§ 54.1-2900. Definitions.**

As used in this chapter, unless the context requires a different meaning:

"Acupuncturist" means individuals approved by the Board to practice acupuncture. This is limited to "licensed acupuncturist" which means an individual other than a doctor of medicine, osteopathy, chiropractic or podiatry who has successfully completed the requirements for licensure established by the Board (approved titles are limited to: Licensed Acupuncturist, Lic.Ac., and L.Ac.).

"Auricular acupuncture" means the subcutaneous insertion of sterile, disposable acupuncture needles in predetermined, bilateral locations in the outer ear when used exclusively and specifically in the context of a chemical dependency treatment program.

"Birth control" means contraceptive methods that are approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. Birth control shall not be considered abortion for the purposes of Title 18.2.

"Board" means the Board of Medicine.

"Genetic counselor" means a person licensed by the Board to engage in the practice of genetic counseling.

"Healing arts" means the arts and sciences dealing with the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and cure or alleviation of human physical or mental ailments, conditions, diseases, pain or infirmities.

"Medical malpractice judgment" means any final order of any court entering judgment against a licensee of the Board that arises out of any tort action or breach of contract action for personal injuries or wrongful death, based on health care or professional services rendered, or that should have been rendered, by a health care provider, to a patient.

"Medical malpractice settlement" means any written agreement and release entered into by or on behalf of a licensee of the Board in response to a written claim for money damages that arises out of any personal injuries or wrongful death, based on health care or professional services rendered, or that should have been rendered, by a health care provider, to a patient.

"Nurse practitioner" means an advanced practice registered nurse who is jointly licensed by the Boards of Medicine and Nursing pursuant to § 54.1-2957.

"Occupational therapy assistant" means an individual who has met the requirements of the Board for licensure and who works under the supervision of a licensed occupational therapist to assist in the practice of occupational therapy.

"Patient care team" means a multidisciplinary team of health care providers actively functioning as a unit with the management and leadership of one or more patient care team physicians for the purpose of providing and delivering health care to a patient or group of patients.

"Patient care team physician" means a physician who is actively licensed to practice medicine in the Commonwealth, who regularly practices medicine in the Commonwealth, and who provides management and leadership in the care of patients as part of a patient care team.

"Physician assistant" means an individual who has met the requirements of the Board for licensure and who works under the supervision of a licensed doctor of medicine, osteopathy, or podiatry.

"Practice of acupuncture" means the stimulation of certain points on or near the surface of the body by the insertion of needles to prevent or modify the perception of pain or to normalize physiological functions, including pain control, for the treatment of certain ailments or conditions of the body and includes the techniques of electroacupuncture, cupping and moxibustion. The practice of acupuncture does not include the use of physical therapy, chiropractic, or osteopathic manipulative techniques; the use or prescribing of any drugs, medications, serums or vaccines; or the procedure of auricular acupuncture as exempted in § 54.1-2901 when used in the context of a chemical dependency treatment program for patients eligible for federal, state or local public funds by an employee of the program who is trained and approved by the National Acupuncture Detoxification Association or an equivalent certifying body.

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59 "Practice of athletic training" means the prevention, recognition, evaluation, and treatment of injuries
60 or conditions related to athletic or recreational activity that requires physical skill and utilizes strength,
61 power, endurance, speed, flexibility, range of motion or agility or a substantially similar injury or
62 condition resulting from occupational activity immediately upon the onset of such injury or condition;
63 and subsequent treatment and rehabilitation of such injuries or conditions under the direction of the
64 patient's physician or under the direction of any doctor of medicine, osteopathy, chiropractic, podiatry, or
65 dentistry, while using heat, light, sound, cold, electricity, exercise or mechanical or other devices.

66 "Practice of behavior analysis" means the design, implementation, and evaluation of environmental
67 modifications, using behavioral stimuli and consequences, to produce socially significant improvement in
68 human behavior, including the use of direct observation, measurement, and functional analysis of the
69 relationship between environment and behavior.

70 "Practice of chiropractic" means the adjustment of the 24 movable vertebrae of the spinal column,
71 and assisting nature for the purpose of normalizing the transmission of nerve energy, but does not
72 include the use of surgery, obstetrics, osteopathy or the administration or prescribing of any drugs,
73 medicines, serums or vaccines.

74 "Practice of genetic counseling" means (i) obtaining and evaluating individual and family medical
75 histories to assess the risk of genetic medical conditions and diseases in a patient, his offspring, and
76 other family members; (ii) discussing the features, history, diagnosis, environmental factors, and risk
77 management of genetic medical conditions and diseases; (iii) ordering genetic laboratory tests and other
78 diagnostic studies necessary for genetic assessment; (iv) integrating the results with personal and family
79 medical history to assess and communicate risk factors for genetic medical conditions and diseases; (v)
80 evaluating the patient's and family's responses to the medical condition or risk of recurrence and
81 providing client-centered counseling and anticipatory guidance; (vi) identifying and utilizing community
82 resources that provide medical, educational, financial, and psychosocial support and advocacy; and (vii)
83 providing written documentation of medical, genetic, and counseling information for families and health
84 care professionals.

85 "Practice of medicine or osteopathic medicine" means the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of
86 human physical or mental ailments, conditions, diseases, pain or infirmities by any means or method.

87 "Practice of occupational therapy" means the therapeutic use of occupations for habilitation and
88 rehabilitation to enhance physical health, mental health, and cognitive functioning and includes the
89 evaluation, analysis, assessment, and delivery of education and training in basic and instrumental
90 activities of daily living; the design, fabrication, and application of orthoses (splints); the design,
91 selection, and use of adaptive equipment and assistive technologies; therapeutic activities to enhance
92 functional performance; vocational evaluation and training; and consultation concerning the adaptation of
93 physical, sensory, and social environments.

94 "Practice of podiatry" means the prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and cure or alleviation of physical
95 conditions, diseases, pain, or infirmities of the human foot and ankle, including the medical, mechanical
96 and surgical treatment of the ailments of the human foot and ankle, but does not include amputation of
97 the foot proximal to the transmetatarsal level through the metatarsal shafts. Amputations proximal to the
98 metatarsal-phalangeal joints may only be performed in a hospital or ambulatory surgery facility
99 accredited by an organization listed in § 54.1-2939. The practice includes the diagnosis and treatment of
100 lower extremity ulcers; however, the treatment of severe lower extremity ulcers proximal to the foot and
101 ankle may only be performed by appropriately trained, credentialed podiatrists in an approved hospital
102 or ambulatory surgery center at which the podiatrist has privileges, as described in § 54.1-2939. The
103 Board of Medicine shall determine whether a specific type of treatment of the foot and ankle is within
104 the scope of practice of podiatry.

105 "Practice of radiologic technology" means the application of x-rays to human beings for diagnostic or
106 therapeutic purposes.

107 "Practice of respiratory care" means the (i) administration of pharmacological, diagnostic, and
108 therapeutic agents related to respiratory care procedures necessary to implement a treatment, disease
109 prevention, pulmonary rehabilitative, or diagnostic regimen prescribed by a practitioner of medicine or
110 osteopathic medicine; (ii) transcription and implementation of the written or verbal orders of a
111 practitioner of medicine or osteopathic medicine pertaining to the practice of respiratory care; (iii)
112 observation and monitoring of signs and symptoms, general behavior, general physical response to
113 respiratory care treatment and diagnostic testing, including determination of whether such signs,
114 symptoms, reactions, behavior or general physical response exhibit abnormal characteristics; and (iv)
115 implementation of respiratory care procedures, based on observed abnormalities, or appropriate reporting,
116 referral, respiratory care protocols or changes in treatment pursuant to the written or verbal orders by a
117 licensed practitioner of medicine or osteopathic medicine or the initiation of emergency procedures,
118 pursuant to the Board's regulations or as otherwise authorized by law. The practice of respiratory care
119 may be performed in any clinic, hospital, skilled nursing facility, private dwelling or other place deemed
120 appropriate by the Board in accordance with the written or verbal order of a practitioner of medicine or

osteopathic medicine, and shall be performed under qualified medical direction.

"Qualified medical direction" means, in the context of the practice of respiratory care, having readily accessible to the respiratory care practitioner a licensed practitioner of medicine or osteopathic medicine who has specialty training or experience in the management of acute and chronic respiratory disorders and who is responsible for the quality, safety, and appropriateness of the respiratory services provided by the respiratory care practitioner.

"Radiologic technologist" means an individual, other than a licensed doctor of medicine, osteopathy, podiatry, or chiropractic, or a dentist licensed pursuant to Chapter 27 (§ 54.1-2700 et seq.), who (i) performs, may be called upon to perform, or who is licensed to perform a comprehensive scope of diagnostic radiologic procedures employing equipment which emits ionizing radiation and (ii) is delegated or exercises responsibility for the operation of radiation-generating equipment, the shielding of patient and staff from unnecessary radiation, the appropriate exposure of radiographs or other procedures which contribute to any significant extent to the site or dosage of ionizing radiation to which a patient is exposed.

"Radiologic technologist, limited" means an individual, other than a licensed radiologic technologist, dental hygienist or person who is otherwise authorized by the Board of Dentistry under Chapter 27 (§ 54.1-2700 et seq.) and the regulations pursuant thereto, who performs diagnostic radiographic procedures employing equipment which emits ionizing radiation which is limited to specific areas of the human body.

"Radiologist assistant" means an individual who has met the requirements of the Board for licensure as an advanced-level radiologic technologist and who, under the direct supervision of a licensed doctor of medicine or osteopathy specializing in the field of radiology, is authorized to (i) assess and evaluate the physiological and psychological responsiveness of patients undergoing radiologic procedures; (ii) evaluate image quality, make initial observations, and communicate observations to the supervising radiologist; (iii) administer contrast media or other medications prescribed by the supervising radiologist; and (iv) perform, or assist the supervising radiologist to perform, any other procedure consistent with the guidelines adopted by the American College of Radiology, the American Society of Radiologic Technologists, and the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists.

"Respiratory care" means the practice of the allied health profession responsible for the direct and indirect services, including inhalation therapy and respiratory therapy, in the treatment, management, diagnostic testing, control and care of patients with deficiencies and abnormalities associated with the cardiopulmonary system under qualified medical direction.