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HOUSE BILL NO. 32

Offered January 10, 2024

Prefiled December 18, 2023

A BILL to amend and reenact § 54.1-2912.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Board of Medicine; continuing education; implicit bias and cultural competency in health care.

Patrons—Clark, Thomas, Anthony, Askew, Bennett-Parker, Callsen, Cohen, Convirs-Fowler, Gardner, Henson, Hope, Jones, Keys-Gamarra, Maldonado, Martinez, Mundon King, Rasoul, Seibold, Shin, Simon, Simonds and Watts; Senators: Bagby, Boysko, Favola, Locke and Salim

Referred to Committee on Health and Human Services

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 54.1-2912.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 54.1-2912.1. Continued competency and office-based anesthesia requirements.

A. The Board shall prescribe by regulation such requirements as may be necessary to ensure continued practitioner competence, which may include continuing education, testing, or any other requirement.

B. In promulgating such regulations, the Board shall consider (i) the need to promote ethical practice, (ii) an appropriate standard of care, (iii) patient safety, (iv) application of new medical technology, (v) appropriate communication with patients, and (vi) knowledge of the changing health care system.

C. The Board may approve persons who provide or accredit such programs in order to accomplish the purposes of this section.

D. The Board shall adopt and implement policies that require each practitioner licensed pursuant to this chapter who has direct contact with persons who are or may become pregnant to complete two hours of continuing education related to implicit bias and cultural competency in health care at least once every other license renewal cycle as provided in § 54.1-2904. For purposes of this subsection, "implicit bias" means a bias or prejudice that is present but not consciously held or recognized.

E. Pursuant to § 54.1-2400 and its authority to establish the qualifications for registration, certification, or licensure that are necessary to ensure competence and integrity to engage in the regulated practice, the Board shall promulgate regulations governing the practice of medicine related to the administration of anesthesia in physicians' offices.

INTRODUCED

HB32