
SENATE BILL 6011

State of Washington

59th Legislature

2005 Regular Session

By Senators Rasmussen and Haugen

Read first time 02/21/2005. Referred to Committee on Health & Long-Term Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to performance and interpretation of nerve
2 conduction tests and performance of needle electromyography; amending
3 RCW 18.71.030; adding a new section to chapter 18.71 RCW; adding a new
4 section to chapter 18.57 RCW; and creating a new section.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The purpose of this act is to confine the
7 performance of nerve conduction tests to persons licensed under
8 chapters 18.71 and 18.57 RCW or delegated by persons licensed under
9 chapters 18.71 and 18.57 RCW. Interpretation of nerve conduction tests
10 and performance and interpretation of needle electromyography is
11 confined to persons licensed under chapters 18.71 and 18.57 RCW and no
12 others.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 18.71 RCW
14 to read as follows:

15 (1) Only persons licensed under this chapter and chapter 18.57 RCW
16 shall be permitted to interpret nerve conduction tests or perform or
17 interpret needle electromyography.

1 (2) A physician may delegate the performance of nerve conduction
2 tests to a licensed or unlicensed individual who is otherwise qualified
3 by education, training, or experience if those tests and procedures are
4 conducted under the direct supervision of a physician licensed under
5 this chapter or chapter 18.57 RCW.

6 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 18.57 RCW
7 to read as follows:

8 (1) Only persons licensed under this chapter and chapter 18.71 RCW
9 shall be permitted to interpret nerve conduction tests or perform or
10 interpret needle electromyography.

11 (2) A physician may delegate the performance of nerve conduction
12 tests to a licensed or unlicensed individual who is otherwise qualified
13 by education, training, or experience if those tests and procedures are
14 conducted under the direct supervision of a physician licensed under
15 this chapter or chapter 18.71 RCW.

16 **Sec. 4.** RCW 18.71.030 and 1996 c 178 s 4 are each amended to read
17 as follows:

18 Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to apply to or interfere
19 in any way with the practice of religion or any kind of treatment by
20 prayer; nor shall anything in this chapter be construed to prohibit:

21 (1) The furnishing of medical assistance in cases of emergency
22 requiring immediate attention;

23 (2) The domestic administration of family remedies;

24 (3) The administration of oral medication of any nature to students
25 by public school district employees or private elementary or secondary
26 school employees as provided for in chapter 28A.210 RCW;

27 (4) Except as limited by section 2 of this act, the practice of
28 dentistry, osteopathic medicine and surgery, nursing, chiropractic,
29 podiatric medicine and surgery, optometry, naturopathy, or any other
30 healing art licensed under the methods or means permitted by such
31 license;

32 (5) The practice of medicine in this state by any commissioned
33 medical officer serving in the armed forces of the United States or
34 public health service or any medical officer on duty with the United
35 States veterans administration while such medical officer is engaged in

1 the performance of the duties prescribed for him or her by the laws and
2 regulations of the United States;

3 (6) The practice of medicine by any practitioner licensed by
4 another state or territory in which he or she resides, provided that
5 such practitioner shall not open an office or appoint a place of
6 meeting patients or receiving calls within this state;

7 (7) The practice of medicine by a person who is a regular student
8 in a school of medicine approved and accredited by the commission,
9 however, the performance of such services be only pursuant to a regular
10 course of instruction or assignments from his or her instructor, or
11 that such services are performed only under the supervision and control
12 of a person licensed pursuant to this chapter;

13 (8) The practice of medicine by a person serving a period of
14 postgraduate medical training in a program of clinical medical training
15 sponsored by a college or university in this state or by a hospital
16 accredited in this state, however, the performance of such services
17 shall be only pursuant to his or her duties as a trainee;

18 (9) The practice of medicine by a person who is regularly enrolled
19 in a physician assistant program approved by the commission, however,
20 the performance of such services shall be only pursuant to a regular
21 course of instruction in said program and such services are performed
22 only under the supervision and control of a person licensed pursuant to
23 this chapter;

24 (10) The practice of medicine by a licensed physician assistant
25 which practice is performed under the supervision and control of a
26 physician licensed pursuant to this chapter;

27 (11) The practice of medicine, in any part of this state which
28 shares a common border with Canada and which is surrounded on three
29 sides by water, by a physician licensed to practice medicine and
30 surgery in Canada or any province or territory thereof;

31 (12) The administration of nondental anesthesia by a dentist who
32 has completed a residency in anesthesiology at a school of medicine
33 approved by the commission, however, a dentist allowed to administer
34 nondental anesthesia shall do so only under authorization of the
35 patient's attending surgeon, obstetrician, or psychiatrist, and the
36 commission has jurisdiction to discipline a dentist practicing under
37 this exemption and enjoin or suspend such dentist from the practice of
38 nondental anesthesia according to this chapter and chapter 18.130 RCW;

1 (13) Emergency lifesaving service rendered by a physician's trained
2 emergency medical service intermediate life support technician and
3 paramedic, as defined in RCW 18.71.200, if the emergency lifesaving
4 service is rendered under the responsible supervision and control of a
5 licensed physician;

6 (14) The provision of clean, intermittent bladder catheterization
7 for students by public school district employees or private school
8 employees as provided for in RCW 18.79.290 and 28A.210.280.

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