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**SUBSTITUTE SENATE BILL 5772**

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**State of Washington**

**64th Legislature**

**2015 Regular Session**

**By** Senate Health Care (originally sponsored by Senators Conway, Frockt, and Bailey; by request of Department of Health)

READ FIRST TIME 02/20/15.

1       AN ACT Relating to requiring physicians and physician assistants  
2 to provide requested demographic information at the time of license  
3 renewal; and amending RCW 18.71.080, 18.71A.020, 18.57.050, and  
4 18.57A.020.

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

6       **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.71.080 and 2011 c 178 s 1 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8       (1)(a) Every person licensed to practice medicine in this state  
9 shall pay licensing fees and renew his or her license in accordance  
10 with administrative procedures and administrative requirements  
11 adopted as provided in RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280.

12       (b) The commission shall request licensees to submit information  
13 about their current professional practice at the time of license  
14 renewal and licensees must provide the information requested. This  
15 information may include practice setting, medical specialty, board  
16 certification, or other relevant data determined by the commission.

17       (c) A physician who resides and practices in Washington and  
18 obtains or renews a retired active license shall be exempt from  
19 licensing fees imposed under this section. The commission may  
20 establish rules governing mandatory continuing education requirements  
21 which shall be met by physicians applying for renewal of licenses.

1 The rules shall provide that mandatory continuing education  
2 requirements may be met in part by physicians showing evidence of the  
3 completion of approved activities relating to professional liability  
4 risk management. The number of hours of continuing education for a  
5 physician holding a retired active license shall not exceed fifty  
6 hours per year.

7 (2) The office of crime victims advocacy shall supply the  
8 commission with information on methods of recognizing victims of  
9 human trafficking, what services are available for these victims, and  
10 where to report potential trafficking situations. The information  
11 supplied must be culturally sensitive and must include information  
12 relating to minor victims. The commission shall disseminate this  
13 information to licensees by: Providing the information on the  
14 commission's web site; including the information in newsletters;  
15 holding trainings at meetings attended by organization members; or  
16 another distribution method determined by the commission. The  
17 commission shall report to the office of crime victims advocacy on  
18 the method or methods it uses to distribute information under this  
19 subsection.

20 (3) The commission, in its sole discretion, may permit an  
21 applicant who has not renewed his or her license to be licensed  
22 without examination if it is satisfied that such applicant meets all  
23 the requirements for licensure in this state, and is competent to  
24 engage in the practice of medicine.

25 **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.71A.020 and 2011 c 178 s 2 are each amended to  
26 read as follows:

27 (1) The commission shall adopt rules fixing the qualifications  
28 and the educational and training requirements for licensure as a  
29 physician assistant or for those enrolled in any physician assistant  
30 training program. The requirements shall include completion of an  
31 accredited physician assistant training program approved by the  
32 commission and within one year successfully take and pass an  
33 examination approved by the commission, if the examination tests  
34 subjects substantially equivalent to the curriculum of an accredited  
35 physician assistant training program. An interim permit may be  
36 granted by the department of health for one year provided the  
37 applicant meets all other requirements. Physician assistants licensed  
38 by the board of medical examiners, or the medical quality assurance  
39 commission as of July 1, 1999, shall continue to be licensed.

1 (2)(a) The commission shall adopt rules governing the extent to  
2 which:

3 (i) Physician assistant students may practice medicine during  
4 training; and

5 (ii) Physician assistants may practice after successful  
6 completion of a physician assistant training course.

7 (b) Such rules shall provide:

8 (i) That the practice of a physician assistant shall be limited  
9 to the performance of those services for which he or she is trained;  
10 and

11 (ii) That each physician assistant shall practice medicine only  
12 under the supervision and control of a physician licensed in this  
13 state, but such supervision and control shall not be construed to  
14 necessarily require the personal presence of the supervising  
15 physician or physicians at the place where services are rendered.

16 (3) Applicants for licensure shall file an application with the  
17 commission on a form prepared by the secretary with the approval of  
18 the commission, detailing the education, training, and experience of  
19 the physician assistant and such other information as the commission  
20 may require. The application shall be accompanied by a fee determined  
21 by the secretary as provided in RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280. A  
22 surcharge of fifty dollars per year shall be charged on each license  
23 renewal or issuance of a new license to be collected by the  
24 department and deposited into the impaired physician account for  
25 physician assistant participation in the impaired physician program.  
26 Each applicant shall furnish proof satisfactory to the commission of  
27 the following:

28 (a) That the applicant has completed an accredited physician  
29 assistant program approved by the commission and is eligible to take  
30 the examination approved by the commission;

31 (b) That the applicant is of good moral character; and

32 (c) That the applicant is physically and mentally capable of  
33 practicing medicine as a physician assistant with reasonable skill  
34 and safety. The commission may require an applicant to submit to such  
35 examination or examinations as it deems necessary to determine an  
36 applicant's physical or mental capability, or both, to safely  
37 practice as a physician assistant.

38 (4)(a) The commission may approve, deny, or take other  
39 disciplinary action upon the application for license as provided in  
40 the Uniform Disciplinary Act, chapter 18.130 RCW.

1 (b) The license shall be renewed as determined under RCW  
2 43.70.250 and 43.70.280. The commission shall request licensees to  
3 submit information about their current professional practice at the  
4 time of license renewal and licensees must provide the information  
5 requested. This information may include practice setting, medical  
6 specialty, or other relevant data determined by the commission.

7 (c) The commission may authorize the use of alternative  
8 supervisors who are licensed either under chapter 18.57 or 18.71 RCW.

9 (5) All funds in the impaired physician account shall be paid to  
10 the contract entity within sixty days of deposit.

11 **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.57.050 and 1996 c 191 s 36 are each amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 (1) The board may establish rules and regulations governing  
14 mandatory continuing education requirements which shall be met by  
15 physicians applying for renewal of licenses. Administrative  
16 procedures, administrative requirements, and fees for applications  
17 and renewals shall be established as provided in RCW 43.70.250 and  
18 43.70.280. The board shall determine prerequisites for relicensing.

19 (2) The board must request licensees to submit information about  
20 their current professional practice at the time of license renewal  
21 and licensees must provide the information requested. This  
22 information may include practice setting, medical specialty, board  
23 certification, or other relevant data determined by the board.

24 **Sec. 4.** RCW 18.57A.020 and 1999 c 127 s 2 are each amended to  
25 read as follows:

26 (1) The board shall adopt rules fixing the qualifications and the  
27 educational and training requirements for licensure as an osteopathic  
28 physician assistant or for those enrolled in any physician assistant  
29 training program. The requirements shall include completion of an  
30 accredited physician assistant training program approved by the board  
31 and within one year successfully take and pass an examination  
32 approved by the board, providing such examination tests subjects  
33 substantially equivalent to the curriculum of an accredited physician  
34 assistant training program. An interim permit may be granted by the  
35 department of health for one year provided the applicant meets all  
36 other requirements. Physician assistants licensed by the board of  
37 osteopathic medicine as of July 1, 1999, shall continue to be  
38 licensed.

1 (2)(a) The board shall adopt rules governing the extent to which:  
2 (i) Physician assistant students may practice medicine during  
3 training; and  
4 (ii) Physician assistants may practice after successful  
5 completion of a training course.  
6 (b) Such rules shall provide:  
7 (i) That the practice of an osteopathic physician assistant shall  
8 be limited to the performance of those services for which he or she  
9 is trained; and  
10 (ii) That each osteopathic physician assistant shall practice  
11 osteopathic medicine only under the supervision and control of an  
12 osteopathic physician licensed in this state, but such supervision  
13 and control shall not be construed to necessarily require the  
14 personal presence of the supervising physicians at the place where  
15 services are rendered. The board may authorize the use of alternative  
16 supervisors who are licensed either under chapter 18.57 or 18.71 RCW.  
17 (3) Applicants for licensure shall file an application with the  
18 board on a form prepared by the secretary with the approval of the  
19 board, detailing the education, training, and experience of the  
20 physician assistant and such other information as the board may  
21 require. The application shall be accompanied by a fee determined by  
22 the secretary as provided in RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280. A surcharge  
23 of twenty-five dollars per year may be charged on each license  
24 renewal or issuance of a new license to be collected by the  
25 department of health for physician assistant participation in an  
26 impaired practitioner program. Each applicant shall furnish proof  
27 satisfactory to the board of the following:  
28 (a) That the applicant has completed an accredited physician  
29 assistant program approved by the board and is eligible to take the  
30 examination approved by the board;  
31 (b) That the applicant is of good moral character; and  
32 (c) That the applicant is physically and mentally capable of  
33 practicing osteopathic medicine as an osteopathic physician assistant  
34 with reasonable skill and safety. The board may require any applicant  
35 to submit to such examination or examinations as it deems necessary  
36 to determine an applicant's physical and/or mental capability to  
37 safely practice as an osteopathic physician assistant.  
38 (4) The board may approve, deny, or take other disciplinary  
39 action upon the application for a license as provided in the uniform

1 disciplinary act, chapter 18.130 RCW. The license shall be renewed as  
2 determined under RCW 43.70.250 and 43.70.280.

3 (5) The board must request licensees to submit information about  
4 their current professional practice at the time of license renewal  
5 and licensees must provide the information requested. This  
6 information may include practice setting, medical specialty, board  
7 certification, or other relevant data determined by the board.

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