
HOUSE BILL 2798

State of Washington

66th Legislature

2020 Regular Session

By Representatives Robinson, Shewmake, Goodman, and Pollet

Read first time 01/22/20. Referred to Committee on Health Care & Wellness.

1 AN ACT Relating to creating a new health profession for doulas;
2 reenacting and amending RCW 18.130.040; adding a new chapter to Title
3 18 RCW; and providing an effective date.

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

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** The definitions in this section apply
6 throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires
7 otherwise.

8 (1) "Department" means the department of health.

9 (2) "Doula" means a person trained to provide physical,
10 emotional, or informational support to a pregnant woman before,
11 during, and after delivery of a child including, but not limited to:
12 Support and assistance during labor and childbirth; prenatal and
13 postpartum education; breastfeeding assistance; parenting education;
14 and support in the event that a woman has been or will become
15 separated from her child.

16 (3) "Secretary" means the secretary of health.

17 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) A doula may voluntarily register with
18 the department under this section.

19 (2) The department shall issue a registration to any applicant
20 who has:

1 (a) Submitted a completed application on a form prescribed by the
2 department; and

3 (b) Paid a registration fee established by the secretary in rule.

4 (3) The uniform disciplinary act, chapter 18.130 RCW, governs the
5 issuance and denial of registrations and the discipline of
6 registrants under this chapter.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** (1) The secretary shall:

8 (a) Establish registration and renewal fees, administrative
9 procedures, administrative requirements, and forms necessary to
10 implement this chapter in accordance with RCW 43.70.250 and
11 43.70.280;

12 (b) Maintain a record of all applicants and registrants under
13 this chapter; and

14 (c) Hire clerical, administrative, and investigative staff as
15 needed to implement and administer this chapter.

16 (2) All fees collected under this chapter must be credited to the
17 health professions account as required under RCW 43.70.320.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** Nothing in this chapter prohibits a person
19 from practicing as a doula without registering under this chapter.

20 **Sec. 5.** RCW 18.130.040 and 2019 c 444 s 11, 2019 c 308 s 18, and
21 2019 c 55 s 7 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

22 (1) This chapter applies only to the secretary and the boards and
23 commissions having jurisdiction in relation to the professions
24 licensed under the chapters specified in this section. This chapter
25 does not apply to any business or profession not licensed under the
26 chapters specified in this section.

27 (2) (a) The secretary has authority under this chapter in relation
28 to the following professions:

29 (i) Dispensing opticians licensed and designated apprentices
30 under chapter 18.34 RCW;

31 (ii) Midwives licensed under chapter 18.50 RCW;

32 (iii) Ocularists licensed under chapter 18.55 RCW;

33 (iv) Massage therapists and businesses licensed under chapter
34 18.108 RCW;

35 (v) Dental hygienists licensed under chapter 18.29 RCW;

36 (vi) Acupuncturists or acupuncture and Eastern medicine
37 practitioners licensed under chapter 18.06 RCW;

1 (vii) Radiologic technologists certified and X-ray technicians
2 registered under chapter 18.84 RCW;

3 (viii) Respiratory care practitioners licensed under chapter
4 18.89 RCW;

5 (ix) Hypnotherapists and agency affiliated counselors registered
6 and advisors and counselors certified under chapter 18.19 RCW;

7 (x) Persons licensed as mental health counselors, mental health
8 counselor associates, marriage and family therapists, marriage and
9 family therapist associates, social workers, social work associates—
10 advanced, and social work associates—independent clinical under
11 chapter 18.225 RCW;

12 (xi) Persons registered as nursing pool operators under chapter
13 18.52C RCW;

14 (xii) Nursing assistants registered or certified or medication
15 assistants endorsed under chapter 18.88A RCW;

16 (xiii) Dietitians and nutritionists certified under chapter
17 18.138 RCW;

18 (xiv) Substance use disorder professionals, substance use
19 disorder professional trainees, or co-occurring disorder specialists
20 certified under chapter 18.205 RCW;

21 (xv) Sex offender treatment providers and certified affiliate sex
22 offender treatment providers certified under chapter 18.155 RCW;

23 (xvi) Persons licensed and certified under chapter 18.73 RCW or
24 RCW 18.71.205;

25 (xvii) Orthotists and prosthetists licensed under chapter 18.200
26 RCW;

27 (xviii) Surgical technologists registered under chapter 18.215
28 RCW;

29 (xix) Recreational therapists under chapter 18.230 RCW;

30 (xx) Animal massage therapists certified under chapter 18.240
31 RCW;

32 (xxi) Athletic trainers licensed under chapter 18.250 RCW;

33 (xxii) Home care aides certified under chapter 18.88B RCW;

34 (xxiii) Genetic counselors licensed under chapter 18.290 RCW;

35 (xxiv) Reflexologists certified under chapter 18.108 RCW;

36 (xxv) Medical assistants-certified, medical assistants-
37 hemodialysis technician, medical assistants-phlebotomist, forensic
38 phlebotomist, and medical assistants-registered certified and
39 registered under chapter 18.360 RCW; ((and))

1 (xxvi) Behavior analysts, assistant behavior analysts, and
2 behavior technicians under chapter 18.380 RCW; and
3 (xxvii) Doulas registered under chapter 18.--- RCW (the new
4 chapter created in section 7 of this act.

5 (b) The boards and commissions having authority under this
6 chapter are as follows:

7 (i) The podiatric medical board as established in chapter 18.22
8 RCW;

9 (ii) The chiropractic quality assurance commission as established
10 in chapter 18.25 RCW;

11 (iii) The dental quality assurance commission as established in
12 chapter 18.32 RCW governing licenses issued under chapter 18.32 RCW,
13 licenses and registrations issued under chapter 18.260 RCW, and
14 certifications issued under chapter 18.350 RCW;

15 (iv) The board of hearing and speech as established in chapter
16 18.35 RCW;

17 (v) The board of examiners for nursing home administrators as
18 established in chapter 18.52 RCW;

19 (vi) The optometry board as established in chapter 18.54 RCW
20 governing licenses issued under chapter 18.53 RCW;

21 (vii) The board of osteopathic medicine and surgery as
22 established in chapter 18.57 RCW governing licenses issued under
23 chapters 18.57 and 18.57A RCW;

24 (viii) The pharmacy quality assurance commission as established
25 in chapter 18.64 RCW governing licenses issued under chapters 18.64
26 and 18.64A RCW;

27 (ix) The Washington medical commission as established in chapter
28 18.71 RCW governing licenses and registrations issued under chapters
29 18.71 and 18.71A RCW;

30 (x) The board of physical therapy as established in chapter 18.74
31 RCW;

32 (xi) The board of occupational therapy practice as established in
33 chapter 18.59 RCW;

34 (xii) The nursing care quality assurance commission as
35 established in chapter 18.79 RCW governing licenses and registrations
36 issued under that chapter;

37 (xiii) The examining board of psychology and its disciplinary
38 committee as established in chapter 18.83 RCW;

39 (xiv) The veterinary board of governors as established in chapter
40 18.92 RCW;

1 (xv) The board of naturopathy established in chapter 18.36A RCW;
2 and

3 (xvi) The board of denturists established in chapter 18.30 RCW.

4 (3) In addition to the authority to discipline license holders,
5 the disciplining authority has the authority to grant or deny
6 licenses. The disciplining authority may also grant a license subject
7 to conditions.

8 (4) All disciplining authorities shall adopt procedures to ensure
9 substantially consistent application of this chapter, the uniform
10 disciplinary act, among the disciplining authorities listed in
11 subsection (2) of this section.

12 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** The secretary may adopt any rules
13 necessary to implement this chapter.

14 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** Sections 1 through 4 and 6 of this act
15 constitute a new chapter in Title 18 RCW.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** Sections 1 through 5 of this act take
17 effect January 1, 2021.

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