
SENATE BILL No. 384

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 25-34.5; IC 34-6-2-117.

Synopsis: Respiratory care practitioners. Requires a respiratory care practitioner to be licensed. (Current law requires certification.) Allows certain courses to be accepted toward the respiratory care practitioner continuing education requirements. Establishes requirements for student permits. Allows an individual who is not a licensed, registered, or certified health care professional to perform respiratory care procedures after passage of an examination. Allows an individual who is not a licensed or certified health care professional to deliver, set up, calibrate, and demonstrate the operation of respiratory care equipment if certain conditions are met.

Effective: July 1, 2000.

Waterman

January 10, 2000, read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Provider Services.

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Second Regular Session 111th General Assembly (2000)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 1999 General Assembly.

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SENATE BILL No. 384



A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning professions and occupations.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 25-34.5-1-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
- 2 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: Sec. 2. "Applicant" means
- 3 a person who applies for ~~certification~~ **licensure** as a respiratory care
- 4 practitioner under this article. The term does not include a practitioner
- 5 who applies for renewal of the practitioner's ~~certificate~~ **license**.
- 6 SECTION 2. IC 25-34.5-1-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
- 7 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: Sec. 6. "Practice of
- 8 respiratory care" means the allied health specialty designed to aid the
- 9 supervising physician or osteopath in the treatment, management,
- 10 diagnostic testing, control, and care of patients with deficiencies and
- 11 abnormalities associated with the cardiopulmonary system. The term
- 12 is ~~limited to~~ **includes** the following:
- 13 (1) Administration of pharmacological, diagnostic, and
- 14 therapeutic aids related to the implementation of a treatment,
- 15 disease prevention, pulmonary rehabilitation, or diagnostic
- 16 regimen prescribed by and under the direct supervision of a
- 17 physician licensed under IC 25-22.5 as follows:



- 1 (A) Administration of medical gases (except for the purpose
2 of anesthesia), aerosols, and humidification.
3 (B) Environmental control mechanisms and hyperbaric
4 therapy.
5 (C) Mechanical or physiological ventilatory support.
6 (D) Bronchopulmonary hygiene.
7 (E) Cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
8 (F) Maintenance of the natural airway.
9 (G) Insertion and maintenance of artificial airways.
10 (H) Specific diagnostic and testing techniques employed in the
11 medical management of patients to assist in diagnosis,
12 monitoring, treatment, and research of pulmonary
13 abnormalities, including measurements of ventilatory volumes,
14 pressures, and flows, collection of specimens of blood and
15 blood gases, expired and inspired gas samples, respiratory
16 secretions, and pulmonary function testing.
17 (I) Utilization of hemodynamic and other related physiologic
18 measurements to assess the status of the cardiopulmonary
19 system.
- 20 (2) Transcription and implementation of the written or verbal
21 orders of a physician.
- 22 (3) Observing and monitoring signs and symptoms, general
23 behavior, general physical response to respiratory care treatment
24 and diagnostic testing, including determination of whether the
25 signs, symptoms, reactions, behavior, or general response exhibit
26 abnormal characteristics.
- 27 (4) Observing and referring based on abnormalities, protocols, or
28 changes in treatment.
- 29 (5) Repairing equipment used in the practice of respiratory care.
- 30 SECTION 3. IC 25-34.5-1-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
31 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: Sec. 7. "Practitioner" means
32 a person ~~certified~~ **licensed** under this article to engage in the practice
33 of respiratory care.
- 34 SECTION 4. IC 25-34.5-2-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
35 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: Sec. 6. The committee shall:
- 36 (1) pass upon the qualifications of persons who apply for
37 ~~certification~~ **licensure** as respiratory care practitioners;
38 (2) provide all examinations;
39 (3) **certify license** qualified applicants; and
40 (4) propose rules concerning the competent practice of respiratory
41 care to the board.
- 42 SECTION 5. IC 25-34.5-2-8 IS AMENDED TO READ AS

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1 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: Sec. 8. (a) Each applicant
 2 for ~~certification licensure~~ as a respiratory care practitioner must
 3 present satisfactory evidence that the applicant:

4 (1) does not have a conviction for:

5 (A) an act that would constitute a ground for disciplinary
 6 sanction under IC 25-1-9; or

7 (B) a crime that has a direct bearing on the practitioner's
 8 ability to practice competently;

9 (2) has not been the subject of a disciplinary action initiated by
 10 the licensing or certification agency of another state or
 11 jurisdiction on the grounds that the applicant was unable to
 12 practice as a respiratory care practitioner without endangering the
 13 public; and

14 (3) has passed a respiratory care practitioner licensing or
 15 certification examination approved by the board.

16 (b) Each applicant for ~~certification licensure~~ as a respiratory care
 17 practitioner must submit proof to the committee of the applicant's:

18 (1) graduation from a school or program of respiratory care that
 19 meets standards set by the board;

20 (2) completion of a United States military training program in
 21 respiratory care; or

22 (3) completion of sufficient postsecondary education to be
 23 ~~certified credentialed~~ by a national respiratory care practitioner
 24 organization approved by the committee.

25 (c) At the time of making application, each applicant must pay a fee
 26 determined by the board after consideration of a recommendation of
 27 the committee.

28 SECTION 6. IC 25-34.5-2-9 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 29 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: Sec. 9. (a) Except as
 30 provided in section 11 of this chapter, the committee shall issue a
 31 ~~certificate license~~ to each applicant who:

32 (1) successfully passes the examination provided in section 12 of
 33 this chapter; and

34 (2) meets the requirements of section 8 of this chapter.

35 (b) A ~~certificate license~~ issued under this section expires on the last
 36 day of the regular renewal cycle established under IC 25-1-5-4.

37 SECTION 7. IC 25-34.5-2-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 38 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: Sec. 10. (a) The committee
 39 shall, under IC 25-1-2, renew every two (2) years the ~~certificate license~~
 40 of a practitioner who:

41 (1) meets the continuing education requirements established by
 42 rule by the board; and

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- 1 (2) pays the fee set by the board.
- 2 (b) If a practitioner does not renew the practitioner's ~~certificate~~
- 3 **license** before its expiration, the practitioner's ~~certificate~~ **license**
- 4 becomes invalid without action taken by the committee. A ~~certificate~~
- 5 **license** that becomes invalid under this subsection may be reinstated by
- 6 the committee up to three (3) years after its invalidation if the
- 7 practitioner who holds an invalid ~~certificate~~ **license** pays the following:
- 8 (1) A penalty set by the board.
- 9 (2) The renewal fee for the biennium.
- 10 (c) If a ~~certificate~~ **license** that becomes invalid under subsection (b)
- 11 is not reinstated by the committee within three (3) years of its
- 12 invalidation, the holder of the invalid ~~certificate~~ **license** may be
- 13 required by the committee to take an examination for competence
- 14 before the committee will reinstate the ~~certificate~~ **license**.
- 15 (d) The board may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 establishing
- 16 requirements for reinstatement of an invalid ~~certificate~~ **license** after
- 17 consideration of a recommendation of the committee.
- 18 (e) **The board shall accept continuing education courses in the**
- 19 **following areas toward fulfillment of the requirements of**
- 20 **subsection (a):**
- 21 (1) **Management of the practice of respiratory care.**
- 22 (2) **Courses concerning the practice of respiratory care that**
- 23 **enable individuals to teach continuing education courses for**
- 24 **respiratory care practitioners.**
- 25 SECTION 8. IC 25-34.5-2-10.1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
- 26 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: Sec. 10.1. (a) The
- 27 committee may issue a temporary permit to a person to **practice**
- 28 **respiratory care or to** profess to be a respiratory care practitioner if
- 29 the person pays a fee and:
- 30 (1) has:
- 31 (A) a valid license or certificate to practice from another state;
- 32 and
- 33 (B) applied for a ~~certificate~~ **license** from the committee;
- 34 (2) is practicing in a state that does not license or certify
- 35 respiratory care practitioners but is ~~certified~~ **credentialed** by a
- 36 national respiratory care practitioner association approved by the
- 37 committee, and the person has applied for a ~~certificate~~ **license**
- 38 from the committee; or
- 39 (3) has:
- 40 (A) been approved by the committee to take the next
- 41 examination; and
- 42 (B) graduated from a school or program approved by the

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- 1 committee.
- 2 (b) A temporary permit expires the earlier of:
- 3 (1) the date the person holding the permit is issued a ~~certificate~~
4 **license** under this article; or
- 5 (2) the date the committee disapproves the person's ~~certificate~~
6 **license** application.
- 7 (c) The committee may renew a temporary permit if the person
8 holding the permit was scheduled to take the next examination and:
- 9 (1) did not take the examination; and
- 10 (2) shows good cause for not taking the examination.
- 11 (d) A permit renewed under subsection (c) expires on the date the
12 person holding the permit receives the results from the next
13 examination given after the permit was issued.
- 14 SECTION 9. IC 25-34.5-2-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
15 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: Sec. 11. (a) The committee
16 may issue a ~~certificate~~ **license** by endorsement to a person who:
- 17 (1) presents satisfactory evidence to the committee that the person
18 holds:
- 19 (A) a license or certification to practice respiratory care in:
- 20 (i) another state; or
- 21 (ii) a jurisdiction of Canada; or
- 22 (B) a ~~certification~~ **credentials issued** by a national respiratory
23 care practitioner organization approved by the committee;
- 24 (2) meets the requirements of section 8 of this chapter; and
- 25 (3) pays a fee determined by the board after consideration of a
26 recommendation of the committee.
- 27 (b) If the applicant presents satisfactory evidence that the applicant
28 has actively engaged in the practice of respiratory care that included
29 actual patient care:
- 30 (1) in another jurisdiction;
- 31 (2) under the supervision of a physician licensed in that
32 jurisdiction; and
- 33 (3) for at least ten (10) of the previous fifteen (15) years
34 preceding the date of application;
- 35 the committee may waive the education requirements under subsection
36 (a)(2) and section 8(b) of this chapter if the committee determines that
37 the applicant has sufficient knowledge and experience.
- 38 SECTION 10. IC 25-34.5-2-12 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
39 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: Sec. 12. (a) Examinations
40 of applicants for ~~certification~~ **licensure** under this article shall be held
41 at least semiannually on dates set by the board.
- 42 (b) An examination under this section must include a written



1 examination that tests the following:

2 (1) The applicant's knowledge of the basic and clinical sciences
3 as they relate to the practice of respiratory care.

4 (2) Other subjects that the committee considers useful to test an
5 applicant's fitness to practice respiratory care.

6 (c) An otherwise qualified applicant who fails an examination and
7 is refused ~~certification~~ **licensure** may take another scheduled
8 examination upon payment of an additional fee set by the board under
9 rules adopted under section 7 of this chapter.

10 SECTION 11. IC 25-34.5-2-14 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
11 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
12 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: **Sec. 14. (a) The committee may issue
13 a student permit to an individual if the individual does the
14 following:**

15 (1) **Submits the appropriate application to the committee.**

16 (2) **Pays the fee established by the board.**

17 (3) **Submits proof to the committee that the individual is a
18 student in good standing in a respiratory care program
19 approved by the committee.**

20 (b) **An individual who holds a student permit may only perform
21 respiratory care procedures that have been part of a course:**

22 (1) **the individual has successfully completed in the
23 respiratory care program designated under subsection (a)(3);
24 and**

25 (2) **for which the successful completion has been documented
26 to the committee.**

27 (c) **The procedures permitted by subsection (b) may be
28 performed only:**

29 (1) **on adult patients who are not critical care patients; and**

30 (2) **under the direct supervision of a practitioner.**

31 (d) **A student permit expires on the earliest of the following:**

32 (1) **The date the permit holder is issued a license under this
33 article.**

34 (2) **The date the committee disapproves the permit holder's
35 application for a license under this article.**

36 (3) **The date the permit holder ceases to be a student in good
37 standing in a respiratory care program approved by the
38 committee.**

39 (4) **Two (2) years after the date of issuance.**

40 SECTION 12. IC 25-34.5-3-1 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
41 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: **Sec. 1. A person may not:**

42 (1) **practice respiratory care;**

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1 (2) profess to be a respiratory care practitioner;
 2 (2) (3) use the title "respiratory care practitioner"; or
 3 (3) (4) use any initials, words, letters, abbreviations, or insignia
 4 indicating or implying that the person is a respiratory care
 5 practitioner ~~certified~~ **licensed** under this article;
 6 unless the person is ~~certified~~ **licensed** under this article.

7 SECTION 13. IC 25-34.5-3-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
 8 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: Sec. 2. A person who
 9 violates this chapter commits a Class B misdemeanor. **In addition to**
 10 **any other penalty imposed for a violation of this chapter, the board**
 11 **may, in the name of the state of Indiana through the attorney**
 12 **general, petition a circuit or superior court to enjoin the person**
 13 **who is violating this chapter from practicing respiratory care in**
 14 **violation of this chapter.**

15 SECTION 14. IC 25-34.5-3-3 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 16 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 17 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: Sec. 3. (a) **This article does not**
 18 **prohibit a licensed, registered, or certified health care professional**
 19 **from practicing within the scope of the health care professional's**
 20 **license, registration, or certification.**

21 (b) **A licensed, certified, or registered health care professional**
 22 **may be cross trained in respiratory care related activities as long**
 23 **as the activities are included within the professional's scope of**
 24 **practice. The competency of the professional must be documented**
 25 **in each area of activity in which cross training occurs.**

26 SECTION 15. IC 25-34.5-3-4 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 27 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 28 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: Sec. 4. **An individual who is not**
 29 **licensed, registered, or certified as a health care professional may**
 30 **perform a procedure that is included in the practice of respiratory**
 31 **care only when the individual passes an examination covering the**
 32 **procedure that is offered by a testing body approved by the**
 33 **committee.**

34 SECTION 16. IC 25-34.5-3-5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
 35 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
 36 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: Sec. 5. **An individual who is not**
 37 **licensed, registered, or certified as a health care professional may**
 38 **deliver, set up, calibrate, and demonstrate the mechanical**
 39 **operation of respiratory care equipment in a residential setting**
 40 **only when the following conditions are met:**

41 (1) **The individual's employer documents that the individual**
 42 **has obtained adequate training and demonstrated competence**



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1 under the supervision of a licensed respiratory care
2 practitioner or other licensed health care practitioner.

3 (2) The individual does not teach, administer, or perform
4 respiratory care procedures.

5 (3) The individual does not attach the respiratory care
6 equipment to the patient or instruct the patient, the patient's
7 family, or the patient's caregiver on the equipment's clinical
8 use as a treatment device.

9 (4) All instructions to the patient, family, or caregiver
10 regarding the clinical use of the equipment, patient
11 monitoring, patient assessment, or other procedures designed
12 to evaluate the effectiveness of the treatment are performed
13 by a licensed respiratory care practitioner or other licensed,
14 registered, or certified health care professional.

15 SECTION 17. IC 25-34.5-3-6 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
16 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
17 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: **Sec. 6. This article does not prohibit**
18 **an individual who is not licensed as a respiratory care practitioner**
19 **from doing any of the following:**

20 (1) Performing cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

21 (2) Repairing equipment used in the practice of respiratory
22 care.

23 SECTION 18. IC 25-34.5-3-7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
24 CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
25 [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: **Sec. 7. This article does not affect the**
26 **applicability of IC 25-22.5-1-2(a)(19).**

27 SECTION 19. IC 34-6-2-117 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
28 FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000]: Sec. 117. "Professional
29 health care provider", for purposes of IC 34-30-15, means:

30 (1) a physician licensed under IC 25-22.5;

31 (2) a dentist licensed under IC 25-14;

32 (3) a hospital licensed under IC 16-21;

33 (4) a podiatrist licensed under IC 25-29;

34 (5) a chiropractor licensed under IC 25-10;

35 (6) an optometrist licensed under IC 25-24;

36 (7) a psychologist licensed under IC 25-33;

37 (8) a pharmacist licensed under IC 25-26;

38 (9) a health facility licensed under IC 16-28-2;

39 (10) a registered or licensed practical nurse licensed under
40 IC 25-23;

41 (11) a physical therapist licensed under IC 25-27;

42 (12) a home health agency licensed under IC 16-27-1;

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- 1 (13) a community mental health center (as defined in
2 IC 12-7-2-38);
3 (14) a health care organization whose members, shareholders, or
4 partners are:
5 (A) professional health care providers described in
6 subdivisions (1) through (13);
7 (B) professional corporations comprised of health care
8 professionals (as defined in IC 23-1.5-1-8); or
9 (C) professional health care providers described in
10 subdivisions (1) through (13) and professional corporations
11 comprised of persons described in subdivisions (1) through
12 (13);
13 (15) a private psychiatric hospital licensed under IC 12-25;
14 (16) a preferred provider organization (including a preferred
15 provider arrangement or reimbursement agreement under
16 IC 27-8-11);
17 (17) a health maintenance organization (as defined in
18 IC 27-13-1-19) or a limited service health maintenance
19 organization (as defined in IC 27-13-34-4);
20 (18) a respiratory care practitioner ~~certified~~ **licensed** under
21 IC 25-34.5;
22 (19) an occupational therapist certified under IC 25-23.5;
23 (20) a state institution (as defined in IC 12-7-2-184);
24 (21) a clinical social worker who is licensed under
25 IC 25-23.6-5-2;
26 (22) a managed care provider (as defined in IC 12-7-2-127(b)); or
27 (23) a nonprofit health care organization affiliated with a hospital
28 that is owned or operated by a religious order, whose members are
29 members of that religious order.

30 SECTION 20. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000] (a) **Notwithstanding**
31 **IC 25-34.5, as amended by this act, an individual who holds a valid**
32 **respiratory care certificate on June 30, 2000, is considered to hold**
33 **a valid respiratory care license under IC 25-34.5, as amended by**
34 **this act, after June 30, 2000. The individual need not apply for a**
35 **replacement license under IC 25-34.5, as amended by this act, until**
36 **the certificate's expiration date, and the certificate shall be treated**
37 **as a valid license under IC 25-34.5, as amended by this act, until**
38 **the certificate's expiration date.**

39 (b) **A respiratory care practitioner's license described in**
40 **subsection (a) expires on the date the respiratory care**
41 **practitioner's license would have expired if the amendments to**
42 **IC 25-34.5 by this act had not been enacted.**



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1 **(c) This SECTION expires July 1, 2002.**
2 **SECTION 21. [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2000] 844 IAC 11-5-3(c) is**
3 **void. The publisher of the Indiana Administrative Code and the**
4 **Indiana Register shall remove this rule from the Indiana**
5 **Administrative Code.**

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