

HB 526 -- Surgical Technologists

Sponsor: Weter

This bill prohibits anyone from practicing as a surgical technologist in a health care facility unless he or she has been certified by the National Board of Surgical Technology and Surgical Assisting, has completed an appropriate training program for surgical technology in the military, provides evidence of employment to practice surgical technology in a health care facility prior to August 28, 2011, or is practicing surgical technology in service to the federal government.

A health care facility can employ or contract with a graduate of a surgical technology program during the 12 months following successful completion of the program before a certification is required. A surgical technologist must complete 15 hours of continuing education annually to remain qualified to practice. If a health care facility after a diligent and thorough effort is unable to employ or contract with a sufficient number of qualified surgical technologists, the facility can employ or contract with uncertificated individuals to provide surgical technology services if the facility makes and retains a written record of its efforts.

The Department of Health and Senior Services must provide oversight for compliance with the provisions of the bill.