

ONE HUNDRED FOURTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION - 2016
COMMITTEE STATEMENT
LB721

Hearing Date: Friday January 22, 2016
Committee On: Health and Human Services
Introducer: Baker
One Liner: Adopt the Surgical First Assistant Practice Act

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:
Advanced to General File with amendment(s)

Vote Results:
Aye: 7 Senators Baker, Campbell, Crawford, Fox, Howard, Kolterman, Riepe
Nay:
Absent:
Present Not Voting:

Verbal Testimony:

Proponents:

Senator Roy Baker
Linda Shoemaker
Chris Wilson
Nancy Gondringer
Erik Otterberg, M.D.
Melissa Florell
Jeanne Wardlaw
Don Wesely

Representing:

District 30
Sidney Regional Medical Center
Self
Self
NMA
NE Nurses Association
NE State Assembly
NE Assn of Independent Ambulatory Centers

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Casey Glassburner

Representing:

NE State Assembly of the Assn. of Surgical Technologies

Summary of purpose and/or changes:

LB721 creates the Surgical First Assistant Practice Act as the result of a credentialing review (407) process completed by the Department of Health and Human Services Public Health Division January, 2016. Creates a process for licensure of surgical first assistants (SFA). Sets the education and training requirements for SFA licensure applicants. Specifies the abbreviation to be used for the credential created by this act, L.S.F.A. Requires DHHS to collect licensure fees for SFAs. Sets out duties for the Board of Medicine and Surgery related to the licensure of SFAs. Amends the Uniform Credentialing Act to include the reference to this Act and SFAs.

Explanation of amendments:

AM2057 amends the sections on licensure requirements and duties of the board and department. Creates an operative date of January 1, 2017.

Section 12 is amended to include grandfathering of current practitioners, by allowing the department to waive requirements for three different options: 1) Before January 1, 2017, applicants who submit demonstrated evidence satisfactory to the Board of Medicine and Surgery that they have been functioning as a surgical first assistant within the last five years, 2) Before January 1, 2017, applicants who submit a current certification as a surgical first assistant by a body approved by the Board of Medicine and Surgery, 3) applicants submits a credential from another state.

Section 17 more clearly delineates duties of the board and department.

Amends Section 11 to clarify the role of the surgical first assistant, deletes "postoperative subcutaneous injection of local anesthetic agent" from the list of allowable duties.

Amends Section 14 to clarify terminology of a license holder.

Kathy Campbell, Chairperson