

SENATE BILL NO. 166

BY SENATOR LAFLEUR AND REPRESENTATIVES BAGLEY, TERRY BROWN, CARPENTER, COX, GISCLAIR, HOFFMANN, JACKSON, JEFFERSON, LYONS, JAY MORRIS, STAGNI AND WHITE

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:1360.31(C)(2)(a)(ii) and 3003(4)(a), relative to physician
3 assistants; to provide for physician assistant qualifications; to provide for referral or
4 order authority for occupational therapy; and to provide for related matters.

5 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

6 Section 1. R.S. 37:1360.31(C)(2)(a)(ii) and 3003(4)(a) are hereby amended and
7 reenacted to read as follows:

8 §1360.31. Services performed by physician assistants

9 * * *

10 C.(1) * * *

11 (2)(a) * * *

12 (i) * * *

13 (ii) Hold ~~an active unrestricted~~ **a current** license issued by the Louisiana
14 State Board of Medical Examiners.

15 * * *

16 §3003. Definitions

17 As used in this Chapter the following words shall have the meanings
18 hereinafter ascribed to each:

19 * * *

20 (4)(a) "Occupational therapy" means the application of any activity in which
21 one engages for the purposes of evaluation, interpretation, treatment planning, and
22 treatment of problems interfering with functional performance in persons impaired
23 by physical illness or injury, emotional disorders, congenital or developmental
24 disabilities, or the aging process, in order to achieve optimum functioning and

1 prevention and health maintenance. The occupational therapist may enter a case for
 2 the purposes of providing consultation and indirect services and evaluating an
 3 individual for the need of services. Prevention, wellness, and education related
 4 services shall not require a referral; however, in workers' compensation injuries
 5 preauthorization shall be required by the employer or workers' compensation insurer
 6 or provider. Implementation of direct occupational therapy to individuals for their
 7 specific medical condition or conditions shall be based on a referral or order from
 8 a physician, **physician assistant**, advanced practice registered nurse, dentist,
 9 podiatrist, or optometrist licensed to practice. Practice shall be in accordance with
 10 published standards of practice established by the American Occupational Therapy
 11 Association, Inc., and the essentials of accreditation established by the agencies
 12 recognized to accredit specific facilities and programs.

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 PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

 SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

 GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF LOUISIANA

APPROVED: _____