
DIGEST

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HB 1216 Engrossed

2026 Regular Session

Egan

Abstract: Provides relative to the governing guidelines for Louisiana Clinical Laboratory Personnel.

Present law provides for definitions relevant to Louisiana Clinical Laboratory Personnel.

Proposed law adds "training program" that offers instruction in the practice of clinical laboratory science.

Proposed law changes "cytotechnology" to "cytology" throughout present law and proposed law.

Proposed law changes "Clinical laboratory scientist-generalist" and "CLS-G" to "Medical laboratory scientist" and "MLS" throughout present law and proposed law.

Proposed law changes "Clinical laboratory scientist-specialist" or "CLSS" to "Medical laboratory scientist-categorical" or "MLS-C" throughout present law and proposed law.

Proposed law changes "Clinical laboratory scientist-technician" or "CLS-T" to "Medical laboratory technician" and "MLT" throughout present law and proposed law.

Proposed law permits an MLT to perform the functions of all licensed and certified clinical laboratory personnel except for cytologists.

Proposed law changes "Clinical Laboratory Personnel Committee" to "Clinical Laboratory Personnel Advisory Committee".

Proposed law allows laboratory assistants to perform waived and moderate complexity tests and procedures, but prohibits high complexity tests.

Proposed law provides that the certification examination must be administered by an agency that is nationally accredited or an examination approved by the board.

Proposed law adds instrument operation to the definition of "practice of clinical laboratory science".

Proposed law adds definitions for "laboratory specialty", "trainee", "temporary permit", and "waived test".

Present law provides for exemptions to licensure for clinical laboratory personnel practicing laboratory science in a clinical laboratory.

Proposed law provides for present law and adds exemptions for permits and those practicing exclusively in the course and scope of their employment.

Proposed law removes the provision that permits individuals working under the direct supervision of a physician in certain settings and allows respiratory therapists to act within the scope of respiratory therapy.

Present law permits pulmonary technicians to act within the scope of practice of respiratory therapy.

Proposed law removes present law and includes perfusionists acting within the scope of perfusion support, treatment, measurement, or supplementation of the cardiopulmonary and circulatory system of an individual patient.

Present law provides for perfusionists acting within the scope of perfusion practice.

Proposed law removes present law and includes individuals whose duties include the performance of technical procedures in accordance with 42 CFR 493 et seq.

Present law permits any individual licensed as a healthcare provider to operate as a clinical laboratory personnel.

Proposed law removes any individual licensed as a healthcare provider to include any individual performing phlebotomy or acting as a phlebotomist who is employed by or under the direct supervision of a licensed physician.

Present law permits any other licensed allied health care professional.

Proposed law removes any other licensed allied health care professional to include any individual whose duties may include demonstrating or instructing, or both, the use of any automated or digital instrument, device, machine, or similar mechanical equipment and related procedures utilized to assist in the practice of clinical laboratory science.

Proposed law provides for individuals performing forensic testing and examinations.

Proposed law provides for individuals who are exempt from the licensure requirement under present law, but these individuals meet the qualifications for licensure under proposed law.

Present law provides for the Clinical Laboratory Personnel Committee membership, qualifications, appointment, and term limits.

Proposed law makes technical changes.

Present law provides for the power and duties of the committee.

Proposed law allows the board to issue licenses or permits and renew licenses or permits.

Proposed law permits recommendations to the board for promulgating the minimum standards for accreditation of educational standards.

Present law provides for licensing and renewal fees.

Proposed law changes the fee amounts and includes phlebotomists in the fee schedule.

Present law provides for temporary permits.

Proposed law provides for technical changes, establishes a six-month expiration for temporary permits, and prohibits renewals after the six-month expiration.

Present law provides for qualifications of clinical laboratory scientist-generalist, clinical laboratory scientist-specialist, clinical laboratory scientist-technician, cytotechnologist, laboratory assistant, and phlebotomist.

Proposed law changes the names of some of the listed professions.

Proposed law provides for applicants to possess a baccalaureate degree from an accredited medical laboratory science program, successfully complete an approved medical laboratory science program or its equivalent, and to have one year of full-time clinical experience.

Present law provides reasons for denials, suspension, probation, restriction, or revocation of licenses or permits.

Proposed law specifies disruptive behavior and refusal to submit to an examination by committee physicians of a licensee's physical or mental fitness and ability as grounds for license or permit denial, suspension, probation, restriction, or revocation.

Present law provides for penalties.

Proposed law increases fine amounts for first offenses from \$500 to \$600, for second offenses from \$1,000 to \$1,200, and for third offenses from \$2,000 to \$2,400 for each offense.

Proposed law provides that entities subject to accreditation under proposed law have until August 1, 2028, to be in compliance with accreditation standards and that entities that fail to do so shall be subject to adverse actions.

(Amends R.S. 37:1312(1), (3), (4),(6)-(12), and (14) and 1313(A)(intro. para.) and (B)(2) -(6), 1314(C)(1)(a)-(d), (e)(intro. para.) and (i), (f), and (g), 1315(A)(2), (3), (10), (11), (14), and (15), 1318(A), (B)(1), (C), (D), and (E), 1320, 1321(A)(1) and (3), (B), (C), (D), 1322, 1323(A)(1) and

(2), (B), (C), (D)(intro. para.), (E)(1), and (F)(intro. para.), 1324, 1325, 1236(A)(intro. para.), (1), (10)(intro. para.) and (a), (B), and (C), and 1327, Adds R.S. 37:1312(16)-(19), 1313(B)(7), 1321(A)(1)(d), and 1326(A)(10)(g), and Repeals R.S. 37:1313(C)(2)-(G), 1315(A)(4), (6), (12), (13), (16) and (17); 1321(A)(2), 1323(A)(3), (D)(1)-(3), (E)(2) and (3), and (F)(1) and (2))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Provide that entities subject to accreditation under proposed law have until August 1, 2028, to be in compliance with accreditation standards and that entities that fail to do so shall be subject to adverse actions.
2. Make technical changes.