

FIRST REGULAR SESSION

HOUSE BILL NO. 390

92ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVES BEHNEN, CROWELL, JETTON, HANAWAY, PAGE, AVERY,
SMITH (14), SCHAAF, JOHNSON (90) (Co-sponsors), THRELKELD, ICET, HOLAND, JONES, SAGER,
DOUGHERTY, ZWEIFEL, HOLAND, HARRIS (23), CORCORAN, JACKSON, COOPER (155),
BISHOP AND KUESSNER.

Read 1st time February 5, 2003, and copies ordered printed.

STEPHEN S. DAVIS, Chief Clerk

0770L.01I

AN ACT

To amend chapter 334, RSMo, by adding thereto sixteen new sections relating to
anesthesiologist assistants, with penalty provisions.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the state of Missouri, as follows:

Section A. Chapter 334, RSMo, is amended by adding thereto sixteen new sections, to
2 be known as sections 334.400, 334.402, 334.404, 334.406, 334.408, 334.410, 334.412, 334.414,
3 334.416, 334.418, 334.420, 334.422, 334.424, 334.426, 334.428, and 334.430, to read as
4 follows:

334.400. As used in sections 334.400 to 334.430, the following terms shall mean:

2 **(1) "Anesthesiologist", a physician who has completed a residency in anesthesiology**
3 **approved by the American Board of Anesthesiology or the American Osteopathic Board**
4 **of Anesthesiology;**

5 **(2) "Anesthesiologist assistant", a person who meets each of the following**
6 **conditions:**

7 **(a) Has graduated from a anesthesiologist assistant program accredited by the**
8 **American Medical Association's Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation**
9 **or by its successor agency;**

10 **(b) Has passed the certifying examination administered by the National**
11 **Commission on Certification of Anesthesiologist Assistants;**

12 **(c) Has active certification by the National Commission on Certification of**
13 **Anesthesiologist Assistants; and**

14 **(d) Provides health care services delegated by a licensed anesthesiologist;**

15 (3) "Anesthesiologist assistant supervision agreement", a written agreement, jointly
16 agreed upon protocols or standing order between a supervising anesthesiologist and an
17 anesthesiologist assistant, which provides for the delegation of health care services from
18 a supervising anesthesiologist to an anesthesiologist assistant and the review of such
19 services;

20 (4) "Applicant", any individual who seeks to become licensed as an anesthesiologist
21 assistant;

22 (5) "Continuing education", the offering of instruction or information to license
23 holders for the purpose of maintaining or increasing skills necessary for the safe and
24 competent practice of anesthetic care;

25 (6) "Department", the department of economic development or a designated agency
26 thereof;

27 (7) "Physician", an individual licensed pursuant to this chapter, to practice
28 medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery;

29 (8) "Supervision", control exercised over an anesthesiologist assistant working
30 within the same facility of the supervising anesthesiologist.

 334.402. 1. An anesthesiologist assistant may assist the supervising anesthesiologist
2 in developing and implementing an anesthesia care plan for a patient. In providing
3 assistance to the supervising anesthesiologist, an anesthesiologist assistant shall have the
4 authority to:

5 (1) Obtain a comprehensive patient history, perform relevant elements of a physical
6 exam and present the history to the supervising anesthesiologist;

7 (2) Pretest and calibrate anesthesia delivery systems and obtain and interpret
8 information from the systems and monitors, in consultation with an anesthesiologist;

9 (3) Assist the supervising anesthesiologist with the implementation of medically
10 accepted monitoring techniques;

11 (4) Establish basic and advanced airway interventions, including intubation of the
12 trachea and performing ventilatory support;

13 (5) Administer intermittent vasoactive drugs and start and adjust vasoactive
14 infusions;

15 (6) Administer anesthetic drugs, adjuvant drugs, and accessory drugs;

16 (7) Assist the supervising anesthesiologist with the performance of epidural
17 anesthetic procedures, spinal anesthetic procedures, and other regional anesthetic
18 techniques;

19 (8) Administer blood, blood products, and supportive fluids;

20 (9) Provide assistance to a cardiopulmonary resuscitation team in response to a

21 **life-threatening situation;**

22 **(10) Participate in administrative, research, and clinical teaching activities as**
23 **authorized by the supervising anesthesiologist; or**

24 **(11) Perform such other tasks not prohibited by law under the supervision of a**
25 **licensed anesthesiologist that an anesthesiologist assistant has been trained and is proficient**
26 **to perform.**

27 **2. An anesthesiologist shall at all times accept and be responsible for the oversight**
28 **of the health care services rendered by the anesthesiologist assistant.**

29 **3. Anesthesiologist assistants are prohibited from the following:**

30 **(1) An anesthesiologist assistant shall not prescribe any medications or controlled**
31 **substances;**

32 **(2) An anesthesiologist assistant shall not administer any drugs, medicines, devices,**
33 **or therapies the supervising anesthesiologist is not qualified or authorized to prescribe;**

34 **(3) An anesthesiologist assistant shall not practice or attempt to practice without**
35 **the supervision of a licensed anesthesiologist or in any location where the supervising**
36 **anesthesiologist is not immediately available for consultation, assistance, and intervention;**
37 **and**

38 **(4) An anesthesiologist assistant shall not bill a patient independently or directly**
39 **for any services or procedures provided by the anesthesiologist assistant.**

40 **4. An anesthesiologist assistant shall be clearly identified as an anesthesiologist**
41 **assistant and shall not use or permit to be used in the anesthesiologist assistant's behalf the**
42 **terms "doctor", "Dr.", or "doc" or in any way be identified as a physician or surgeon. An**
43 **anesthesiologist assistant shall not refer to a certificate of registration or authority, permit,**
44 **or license as "board-certified" or use any other terminology that may imply that the**
45 **anesthesiologist assistant is a physician or surgeon.**

46 **5. A student in any anesthesiologist assistant training program shall be identified**
47 **as a student anesthesiologist assistant or an anesthesiologist assistant student. Under no**
48 **circumstances shall such a student use or permit to be used on the student's behalf, the**
49 **terms "intern", "resident", or "fellow" or be identified in any way as a physician or**
50 **surgeon.**

334.404. 1. Each person desiring a license pursuant to sections 334.400 to 334.430
2 **shall make application to the department upon such forms and in such manner as may be**
3 **prescribed by the department and shall pay the required application fee as set by the**
4 **department. The application fee shall cover the cost of issuing the license and shall not be**
5 **refundable. Each application shall contain a statement that it is made under oath or**
6 **affirmation and that its representations are true and correct to the best knowledge and**

7 belief of the person signing the application, subject to the penalties of making a false
8 declaration or affidavit. Such application shall include proof of certification from the
9 National Commission on Certification of Anesthesiologist Assistants or its successor, date
10 of the certification, any identification numbers, and any other information necessary for
11 the board to verify the certification.

12 2. The board, upon approval of the application from an applicant, shall issue a
13 license to such applicant.

14 3. A license is valid for two years from the date it is issued and may be renewed
15 biennially by filing an application for renewal with the department and paying the
16 required renewal fee as set by the department.

17 4. A blank form for application for renewal of licensure shall be mailed to each
18 person licensed in this state at his or her last known office or residence address.

19 5. A new license to replace any license lost, destroyed, or mutilated may be issued
20 to any applicant, subject to rules and regulations issued by the department upon the
21 payment of a reasonable fee.

334.406. Notwithstanding any of the provisions of sections 334.400 to 334.430, the
2 board may issue a temporary license to practice as an anesthesiologist assistant to an
3 applicant that has taken the examination and is awaiting the results. A temporary license
4 may be granted upon the payment of a temporary license fee, the submission of all
5 required documents, and the applicant meeting the necessary qualifications, as defined by
6 board rule. The temporary license shall be valid until the results of the examination are
7 announced. The temporary license may be renewed at the discretion of the board and
8 upon payment of the temporary license fee.

334.408. 1. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, any person licensed pursuant
2 to sections 334.400 to 334.430 may apply to the board for an inactive license status on a
3 form furnished by the board. Upon receipt of the completed inactive status application
4 form and a determination by the board that the licensee meets the requirements defined
5 by board rule, the board shall declare the licensee inactive and shall place the licensee on
6 an inactive status list. A person that has an inactive license or has discontinued the
7 practice of an anesthesiologist assistant because of retirement shall not practice as an
8 anesthesiologist assistant within this state.

9 2. During the period of inactive status, the licensee shall not be required to comply
10 with the board's minimum requirements for continuing education.

11 3. If a licensee is granted inactive status, the licensee may return to active status by
12 notifying the board of the intention to resume the practice of an anesthesiologist assistant,
13 paying the appropriate fees, and meeting all established licensure requirements of the

14 board, as a condition of reinstatement.

15 4. Any licensee that allows the license to become inactive for a period of five years
16 or less may return the license to active status by notifying the board in advance of such
17 intention, paying the appropriate fees, and meeting all established licensure requirements
18 of the board, excluding the licensing examination, as a condition of reinstatement.

334.410. Any person licensed to practice as an anesthesiologist assistant in this state
2 who retires from such practice shall file with the board an affidavit, on a form to be
3 furnished by the board, which states the date of retirement and such other facts to verify
4 the retirement as defined by board rule. Registration with the board must be renewed
5 pursuant to section 334.414 for any person that wants to resume the practice of an
6 anesthesiologist assistant.

334.412. 1. Upon the applicant paying a fee equivalent to the required licensing fee
2 and furnishing the board with all locations of previous practice and licensure in
3 chronological order, the board may, subject to the prescribed rules and regulations,
4 license, without examination or additional certification, any qualified applicant that meets
5 the requirements of this state including any person that is licensed in any state or territory
6 of the United States or the District of Columbia with the authority to practice in the same
7 manner and to the same extent as anesthesiologist assistant is authorized to practice
8 pursuant to sections 334.400 to 334.430. Pursuant to sections 334.400 to 334.430, the board
9 shall have the authority to negotiate reciprocal compacts with licensing boards of other
10 states for the admission of licensed anesthesiologist assistants from Missouri to practice in
11 other states.

12 2. The board shall issue a license to any anesthesiologist assistant, who is licensed
13 in another jurisdiction and who has had no violations, suspensions, or revocations of a
14 license, to practice as an anesthesiologist assistant in any jurisdiction, provided that, such
15 person is licensed in a jurisdiction whose requirements are substantially equal to, or
16 greater than, the requirements for licensure of anesthesiologist assistants in Missouri at the
17 time the applicant applies for licensure.

334.414. 1. The board shall issue a certificate of registration to any applicant that
2 meets the qualifications for an anesthesiologist assistant and that has paid the required
3 fees.

4 2. The board shall promulgate rules and regulations pertaining to:

5 (1) Establishing application forms to be furnished to all persons seeking
6 registration pursuant to sections 334.400 to 334.430;

7 (2) Accepting certification by the National Commission on Certification of
8 Anesthesiologist Assistants or its successor in lieu of examinations for applicants for

9 registration pursuant to sections 334.400 to 334.430;

10 (3) Determining the form and design of the registration to be issued pursuant to
11 sections 334.400 to 334.430;

12 (4) Setting the amount of the fees for registration, licensure, and renewal pursuant
13 to sections 334.400 to 334.430. The fees shall be set at a level to produce revenue which
14 shall not substantially exceed the cost and expense of administering the provisions of
15 sections 334.400 to 334.430;

16 (5) Keeping a record of all of its proceedings regarding sections 334.400 to 334.430
17 and of all anesthesiologist assistants registered in this state.

18

19 No rule or portion of a rule promulgated pursuant to the authority of sections 334.400 to
20 334.430 shall become effective unless it has been promulgated pursuant to chapter 536,
21 RSMo.

22 3. The board shall have the authority to:

23 (1) Issue subpoenas to compel witnesses to testify or produce evidence in
24 proceedings to deny, suspend, or revoke registration; and

25 (2) Establish guidelines for anesthesiologist assistants pursuant to sections 334.400
26 to 334.430.

27 4. The board may refuse to issue, suspend, revoke, or renew any certificate of
28 registration or authority, permit, or license required pursuant to sections 334.400 to
29 334.430 for one or any combination of causes stated in subsection 5 of this section. The
30 board shall notify the applicant in writing of the reasons for the refusal, suspension, or
31 revocation and shall advise the applicant of the right to file a complaint with the
32 administrative hearing commission as provided by chapter 621, RSMo.

33 5. The board may cause a complaint to be filed with the administrative hearing
34 commission as provided by chapter 621, RSMo, against any holder of any certificate of
35 registration or authority, permit, or license required pursuant to sections 334.400 to
36 334.430 or against any person who has failed to renew or has surrendered a certificate of
37 registration or authority, permit, or license for any one or any combination of the following
38 causes:

39 (1) Use or unlawful possession of any controlled substance, as defined in chapter
40 195, RSMo, or alcoholic beverage to an extent that such use impairs a person's ability to
41 perform the work of an anesthesiologist assistant;

42 (2) The person has been finally adjudicated and found guilty, or entered a plea of
43 guilty or nolo contendere, in a criminal prosecution under the laws of any state or of the
44 United States, for any offense reasonably related to the qualifications, functions or duties

45 of an anesthesiologist assistant, for any offense for which an essential element is fraud,
46 dishonesty, or an act of violence, or for any offense involving moral turpitude, whether or
47 not sentence is imposed;

48 (3) Use of fraud, deception, misrepresentation, or bribery in securing any certificate
49 of registration or authority, permit or license issued pursuant to sections 334.400 to 334.430
50 or in obtaining permission to take any examination given or required pursuant to sections
51 334.400 to 334.430;

52 (4) Obtaining or attempting to obtain any fee, charge, tuition, or other
53 compensation by fraud, deception, or misrepresentation;

54 (5) Incompetency, misconduct, gross negligence, fraud, misrepresentation, or
55 dishonesty in the performance of the functions and duties of an anesthesiologist assistant;

56 (6) Violation of, or assisting or enabling any person to violate any provision of
57 sections 334.400 to 334.430 or any lawful rule or regulation adopted pursuant to sections
58 334.400 to 334.430;

59 (7) Impersonation of any person holding a certificate of registration or authority,
60 permit, or license or allowing any person to use a certificate of registration or authority,
61 permit, license or diploma from any school;

62 (8) Disciplinary action against the holder of a license or other right relating to the
63 practice of an anesthesiologist assistant granted by another state, territory, federal agency,
64 or country upon grounds for which revocation or suspension is authorized in this state;

65 (9) Final adjudication of insanity or incompetency by a court of competent
66 jurisdiction;

67 (10) Assisting or enabling any person to practice or offer to practice as an
68 anesthesiologist assistant who is not registered and currently eligible to practice pursuant
69 to sections 334.400 to 334.430;

70 (11) Issuance of a certificate of registration or authority, permit, or license based
71 upon a material mistake of fact;

72 (12) Violation of any professional trust or confidence;

73 (13) Violation of the ethical standards for an anesthesiologist assistant as defined
74 by board rule; or

75 (14) Violation of chapter 195, RSMo, or rules and regulations of this state, any
76 other state, or the federal government.

77 7. After the filing of such complaint, the proceedings shall be conducted in
78 accordance with the provisions of chapter 621, RSMo. Upon a finding by the
79 administrative hearing commission that the grounds, provided in subsection 5 of this
80 section for disciplinary action are met, the board may, singly or in combination, censure

81 or place the person named in the complaint on probation with such terms and conditions
82 as the board deems appropriate for a period not to exceed ten years, or suspend his or her
83 license for a period not to exceed seven years, or revoke his or her license, certificate, or
84 permit.

85 8. An individual whose license has been revoked shall wait at least one year from
86 the date of revocation to apply for relicensure and shall not be eligible for a temporary
87 license. Relicensure shall be at the discretion of the board after compliance with all
88 requirements of sections 334.400 to 334.430.

89 9. Any person who violates any of the provisions of sections 334.400 to 334.430 is
90 guilty of class A misdemeanor.

334.416. 1. Every person licensed pursuant to sections 334.400 to 334.430 shall
2 renew his or her certificate of registration on or before the registration renewal date. The
3 application shall be made under oath on a form furnished by the board. The application
4 shall include, but not be limited to, disclosure of the following:

5 (1) The applicant's full name and his or her office and residence address;

6 (2) The date and number of his or her license;

7 (3) All final disciplinary actions taken against the applicant by any professional
8 medical or osteopathic association or society, licensed hospital or medical staff of the
9 hospital, state, territory federal agency or country; and

10 (4) Information concerning the applicant's current physical and mental fitness to
11 practice as an anesthesiologist assistant.

12 2. A blank form for application for registration shall be mailed to each person
13 licensed in this state at his or her last known office or residence address. The failure to
14 receive the application form does not relieve any person of the duty to register and pay the
15 fee required pursuant to sections 334.400 to 334.430 nor be exempt from the penalties
16 provided pursuant to sections 334.400 to 334.430 for failure to register.

17 3. If a person licensed, certified, or registered by the board does not renew such
18 license, certification, or registration for two consecutive renewal periods, such license,
19 certification, or registration shall be deemed void.

20 4. An application for registration pursuant to section 334.400 to 334.430 shall be
21 accompanied with a registration fee to be payable to the director of revenue. If the
22 application is filed and the fee paid after the registration renewal date, a delinquent fee
23 shall be paid. The delinquent fee may be waived by the board based on extenuating
24 circumstances as defined by board rule.

334.418. 1. Except as provided in subsection 2 of this section, no person shall
2 practice as an anesthesiologist assistant unless the person holds a current, valid certificate

3 of registration issued pursuant to sections 334.400 to 334.430 to practice as an
4 anesthesiologist assistant.

5 2. The provision of subsection 1 of this section shall not apply to the following:

6 (1) A person participating in a training program leading toward certification by
7 the National Commission for Certification of Anesthesiologist Assistants, as long as the
8 person is supervised by an anesthesiologist;

9 (2) An individual participating in a hospital residency program in preparation to
10 practice as an anesthesiologist; and

11 (3) Any person who otherwise holds professional authority granted pursuant to
12 sections 334.400 to 334.430 to perform any of the activities that an anesthesiologist assistant
13 is authorized to perform.

334.420. The board shall not renew any certificate of registration unless the
2 anesthesiologist assistant has provided satisfactory evidence that the board's minimum
3 requirements for continuing education have been met. At the discretion of the board,
4 compliance with the provision of this section may be waived for an anesthesiologist
5 assistant that has discontinued the practice of an anesthesiologist assistant due to
6 retirement.

334.422. 1. All fees payable pursuant to the provisions of sections 334.400 to
2 334.430 shall be collected by the division of professional registration, which shall transmit
3 them to the department of revenue for deposit in the state treasury to the credit of the
4 board of registration for the healing arts fund.

5 2. Upon appropriation by the general assembly, the money in the fund shall be used
6 to administer the provisions of sections 334.400 to 334.430.

334.424. 1. An anesthesiologist assistant shall practice only under the direct
2 supervision of an anesthesiologist who is physically present or immediately available.

3 2. Each anesthesiologist who agrees to act as the supervising anesthesiologist of an
4 anesthesiologist assistant shall adopt a written practice protocol that is consistent with
5 sections 334.400 to 334.430 and delineates the services that the anesthesiologist assistant
6 is authorized to provide and the manner in which the anesthesiologist will supervise the
7 anesthesiologist assistant. The provisions of the protocol shall be based on relevant quality
8 assurance standards, including regular review by the supervising anesthesiologist of the
9 medical records of the patients cared for by the anesthesiologist assistant.

10 3. The supervising anesthesiologist shall oversee the anesthesiologist assistant in
11 accordance with the terms of the protocol and any rules and regulations as defined by the
12 board for the supervision of an anesthesiologist assistant.

334.426. Notwithstanding the provisions of sections 334.400 to 334.430, or the rules

2 of the Missouri state board of registration for the healing arts, the governing body of every
3 hospital shall have full authority to limit the functions and activities that an
4 anesthesiologist assistant performs in such hospital.

334.428. 1. No person shall put forth to the public any title or description that
2 includes the words "licensed anesthesiologist assistant" as defined in section 334.404 unless
3 the person is duly licensed pursuant to the provisions of sections 334.400 to 334.430.

4 2. Nothing in sections 334.400 to 334.430 shall be construed as prohibiting any
5 individual registered pursuant to section 334.418, regardless of whether the individual is
6 licensed pursuant to sections 334.400 to 334.430, from providing the services of
7 anesthesiologist assistant.

8 3. Notwithstanding the specified penalty in section 334.414, any person found guilty
9 of violating any provision of subsections 1 and 2 of this section shall be guilty of an
10 infraction and upon conviction thereof shall be punished as provided by law. For purposes
11 of this subsection, the maximum fine for a violation of this section shall be two hundred
12 dollars.

334.430. 1. There is hereby established an "Advisory Commission for
2 Anesthesiologist Assistants" which shall guide, advise and make recommendations to the
3 board. The commission shall be responsible for the ongoing examination of the scope of
4 practice and promoting the continuing role of anesthesiologist assistants in the delivery of
5 health care services. The commission shall assist the board in carrying out the provisions
6 of sections 334.400 to 334.430.

7 2. The commission shall be appointed no later than January 1, 2004. The
8 commission shall be composed of five members, to be appointed by the governor, with the
9 advice and consent of the senate, as follows:

- 10 (1) One member of the board;
11 (2) One licensed anesthesiologist assistant;
12 (3) Two licensed, board-certified anesthesiologists; and
13 (4) One lay member.

14 3. Each licensed anesthesiologist assistant member shall be a citizen of the United
15 States and a resident of this state, and shall be licensed as an anesthesiologist assistant by
16 this state. Each physician member shall be a United States citizen, a resident of this state
17 and have an active license to practice medicine in this state. The lay member shall be a
18 United States citizen and a resident of this state.

19 4. The licensed anesthesiologist assistant member shall be appointed to serve a
20 three-year term. The anesthesiologist members and lay member shall each be appointed
21 to serve three-year terms, except at the time the commission is created, when one

22 anesthesiologist member will be appointed for a first term of two years while the second
23 anesthesiologist member will be appointed to a three year term. This will ensure that at
24 least one anesthesiologist member has at least one years experience as a member of the
25 commission. Neither the anesthesiologist assistant member nor the physician members
26 shall be appointed for more than two consecutive three-year terms.

27 5. The president of the Missouri Society of Anesthesiologists or its successor in
28 office at the time shall, at least ninety days prior to the expiration of a term of a
29 anesthesiologist assistant member or an anesthesiologist member of the commission or as
30 soon as feasible after such a vacancy on the commission otherwise occurs, submit to the
31 director of the division of professional registration a list, not to exceed five individuals per
32 vacancy, of qualified and willing anesthesiologists or anesthesiologist assistants,
33 respectively, to fill the vacancy in question, with the request and recommendation that the
34 governor appoint one of the persons so listed. With the list so submitted, the president of
35 the Missouri Society of Anesthesiologists shall include in a letter of transmittal a
36 description of the method by which the names were chosen by that association.

37 6. Until such time as eligible anesthesiologist assistant candidates are identified, the
38 anesthesiologist assistant seat may remain vacant or may be filled by a qualified
39 anesthesiologist candidate, at the governor's discretion with the advice and consent of the
40 senate. This member may serve no more than two consecutive three-year terms or until
41 an eligible anesthesiologist assistant candidate, selected by the governor with the advice
42 and consent of the senate, from a list provided as outlined above is appointed.

43 7. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, any appointed
44 member of the commission shall receive as compensation an amount established by the
45 director of the division of professional registration not to exceed seventy dollars per day
46 for commission business plus actual and necessary expenses. The director of the division
47 of professional registration shall establish by rule the guidelines for payment. The board
48 shall provide all staff for the commission.

49 8. The commission shall hold an open annual meeting at which time it shall elect
50 from its membership a chairman and secretary. The commission may hold such additional
51 meetings as may be required in the performance of its duties, provided that notice of every
52 meeting shall be given to each member at least ten days prior to the date of the meeting.
53 A quorum of the commission shall consist of a majority of its members.