

Second Regular Session  
Sixty-eighth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

**REENGROSSED**

*This Version Includes All Amendments  
Adopted in the House of Introduction*

LLS NO. 12-0628.01 Kristen Forrestal x4217

**HOUSE BILL 12-1332**

**HOUSE SPONSORSHIP**

**Balmer,** Liston, Hullinghorst, Joshi, Kerr J., Peniston, Schafer S., Young, Ramirez

**SENATE SPONSORSHIP**

**Guzman,** Boyd, King S., Morse, Newell

**House Committees**

Health and Environment

**Senate Committees**

**A BILL FOR AN ACT**

101 **CONCERNING LICENSURE OF ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS.**

**Bill Summary**

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)*

The bill prohibits an individual from practicing as an anesthesiologist assistant without a license issued by the Colorado medical board (board), effective July 1, 2013. In order to be licensed as an anesthesiologist assistant, an applicant must be at least 21 years of age and have:

- ! Successfully completed an education program for anesthesiologist assistants that conforms to standards

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.

*Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.*

*Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.*

HOUSE  
3rd Reading Unamended  
April 18, 2012

HOUSE  
Amended 2nd Reading  
April 16, 2012

- ! delineated by the commission on accreditation of allied health education programs and approved by the board;
- ! Successfully completed the national certifying examination for anesthesiologist assistants that is administered by the national commission for certification of anesthesiologist assistants; and
- ! Submitted an application to the board in the manner designated by the board and paid the appropriate fee established by the board.

The bill allows a physician who specializes in anesthesiology to delegate medical tasks to a licensed anesthesiologist assistant, including the authority to administer medications. The tasks are limited to the medical functions that constitute the delivery of or provision of anesthesia services as practiced by the supervising physician.

An anesthesiologist assistant is subject to the same standards for licensing, unprofessional conduct, and discipline that exist for physician assistants.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-36-102.5, **amend**  
 3 (6) and (7) as follows:

4           **12-36-102.5. Definitions.** As used in this article, unless the  
 5 context otherwise requires:

6           (6) "License" means the authority to practice medicine, ~~or~~ practice  
 7 as a physician assistant, OR PRACTICE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
 8 ASSISTANT under this article.

9           (7) "Licensee" means any physician, ~~or~~ physician assistant, OR  
 10 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT who is licensed pursuant to this article.

11           **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-36-104, **amend**  
 12 (3) as follows:

13           **12-36-104. Powers and duties of board.** (3) To facilitate the  
 14 licensure of qualified applicants and address the unlicensed practice of  
 15 medicine, ~~and~~ the unlicensed practice as a physician assistant, AND THE  
 16 UNLICENSED PRACTICE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT, the president

1 of the board shall establish a licensing panel in accordance with section  
2 12-36-111.3 to perform licensing functions in accordance with this article  
3 and review and resolve matters relating to the unlicensed practice of  
4 medicine, ~~and~~ unlicensed practice as a physician assistant, AND  
5 UNLICENSED PRACTICE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT. Two panel  
6 members ~~shall~~ constitute a quorum of the panel. Any action taken by a  
7 quorum of the panel ~~shall constitute~~ CONSTITUTES action by the board.

8 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-36-106, **amend**  
9 (2); and **add** (7) as follows:

10 **12-36-106. Practice of medicine defined - exemptions from**  
11 **licensing requirements - unauthorized practice by physician**  
12 **assistants and anesthesiologist assistants - penalties - rules.** (2) If a  
13 person who does not possess and has not filed a license to practice  
14 medicine, ~~or~~ practice as a physician assistant, OR PRACTICE AS AN  
15 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT in this state, as provided in this article, and  
16 who is not exempted from the licensing requirements under this article,  
17 performs any of the acts that constitute the practice of medicine as  
18 defined in this section, the person shall be deemed to be practicing  
19 medicine, ~~or~~ practicing as a physician assistant, OR PRACTICING AS AN  
20 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT in violation of this article.

21 (7) (a) A PHYSICIAN LICENSED IN THIS STATE THAT PRACTICES AS  
22 AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST MAY DELEGATE TASKS CONSTITUTING THE  
23 PRACTICE OF MEDICINE TO AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT LICENSED  
24 PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-36-107.3 WHO HAS BEEN EDUCATED AND  
25 TRAINED IN ACCORDANCE WITH RULES PROMULGATED BY THE BOARD. THE  
26 DELEGATED MEDICAL TASKS REFERRED TO IN THIS PARAGRAPH (a) ARE  
27 LIMITED TO THE MEDICAL FUNCTIONS THAT CONSTITUTE THE DELIVERY OR

1 PROVISION OF ANESTHESIA SERVICES AS PRACTICED BY THE SUPERVISING  
2 PHYSICIAN.

3 (b) AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT SHALL PERFORM  
4 DELEGATED MEDICAL TASKS ONLY UNDER THE DIRECT SUPERVISION OF A  
5 PHYSICIAN WHO PRACTICES AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST. UNLESS APPROVED  
6 BY THE BOARD, A SUPERVISING PHYSICIAN SHALL NOT CONCURRENTLY  
7 SUPERVISE MORE THAN THREE ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS; EXCEPT  
8 THAT THE BOARD MAY, BY RULE, ALLOW AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST TO  
9 SUPERVISE UP TO FOUR ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS ON AND AFTER  
10 JULY 1, 2016. DIRECT SUPERVISION OF ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS  
11 MAY BE TRANSFERRED BETWEEN ANESTHESIOLOGISTS OF THE SAME GROUP  
12 OR PRACTICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH GENERALLY ACCEPTED STANDARDS OF  
13 CARE.

14 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 12-36-107.3 as  
15 follows:

16 **12-36-107.3. Anesthesiologist assistant license - qualifications.**

17 (1) TO BE LICENSED AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT UNDER THIS  
18 ARTICLE, AN APPLICANT MUST BE AT LEAST TWENTY-ONE YEARS OF AGE  
19 AND MUST HAVE:

20 (a) SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED AN EDUCATION PROGRAM FOR  
21 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS THAT CONFORMS TO STANDARDS  
22 DELINEATED BY THE COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION OF ALLIED HEALTH  
23 EDUCATION PROGRAMS, OR ITS SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION, AND  
24 APPROVED BY THE BOARD;

25 (b) SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE NATIONAL CERTIFYING  
26 EXAMINATION FOR ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS THAT IS ADMINISTERED  
27 BY THE NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR CERTIFICATION OF ANESTHESIOLOGIST

1 ASSISTANTS OR A SUCCESSOR ORGANIZATION; AND

2 (c) SUBMITTED AN APPLICATION TO THE BOARD IN THE MANNER  
3 DESIGNATED BY THE BOARD AND PAID THE APPROPRIATE FEE ESTABLISHED  
4 BY THE BOARD PURSUANT TO SECTION 24-34-105, C.R.S.

5 (2) A PERSON APPLYING FOR A LICENSE TO PRACTICE AS AN  
6 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT IN THIS STATE SHALL NOTIFY THE BOARD,  
7 IN CONNECTION WITH HIS OR HER APPLICATION FOR LICENSURE, OF THE  
8 COMMISSION OF ANY ACT THAT WOULD BE GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINARY  
9 ACTION AGAINST A LICENSED ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT UNDER  
10 SECTION 12-36-117, ALONG WITH AN EXPLANATION OF THE  
11 CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE ACT. THE BOARD MAY DENY LICENSURE TO ANY  
12 APPLICANT AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 12-36-116.

13 (3) A PERSON LICENSED TO PRACTICE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
14 ASSISTANT SHALL NOT PERFORM ANY ACT THAT CONSTITUTES THE  
15 PRACTICE OF MEDICINE WITHIN A HOSPITAL OR AMBULATORY SURGICAL  
16 CENTER LICENSED PURSUANT TO PART 1 OF ARTICLE 3 OF TITLE 25, C.R.S.,  
17 OR REQUIRED TO OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE PURSUANT TO  
18 SECTION 25-1.5-103 (1) (a) (II), C.R.S., UNLESS THE LICENSED  
19 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT OBTAINS AUTHORIZATION FROM THE  
20 GOVERNING BOARD OF THE HOSPITAL OR AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER.  
21 THE GOVERNING BOARD OF A HOSPITAL OR AMBULATORY SURGICAL  
22 CENTER MAY GRANT, DENY, OR LIMIT A LICENSED ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
23 ASSISTANT'S AUTHORIZATION BASED ON THE GOVERNING BOARD'S  
24 ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES.

25 (4) THE BOARD MAY TAKE ANY DISCIPLINARY ACTION WITH  
26 RESPECT TO AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT LICENSE AS IT MAY WITH  
27 RESPECT TO THE LICENSE OF A PHYSICIAN, IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION

1 12-36-118.

2 (5) THE BOARD SHALL LICENSE AND KEEP A RECORD OF  
3 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS WHO HAVE BEEN LICENSED PURSUANT TO  
4 THIS SECTION. A LICENSED ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT SHALL RENEW  
5 HIS OR HER LICENSE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 12-36-123.

6 (6) THIS SECTION TAKES EFFECT JULY 1, 2013.

7 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-36-111.3, **amend**  
8 (3) as follows:

9 **12-36-111.3. Licensing panel.** (3) The licensing panel shall  
10 review and resolve matters relating to the unlicensed practice of  
11 medicine. If it appears to the licensing panel, based upon credible  
12 evidence in a written complaint by any person or upon credible evidence  
13 in a motion of the licensing panel, that a person is practicing or has  
14 practiced medicine, ~~OR PRACTICED~~ as a physician assistant, ~~OR PRACTICED~~  
15 ~~AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT~~ without a license as required by this  
16 article, the licensing panel may issue an order to cease and desist the  
17 unlicensed practice. The order ~~shall~~ MUST set forth the particular statutes  
18 and rules that have been violated, the facts alleged to have constituted the  
19 violation, and the requirement that all unlicensed practices immediately  
20 cease. The respondent may request a hearing on a cease-and-desist order  
21 in accordance with section 12-36-118 (14) (b). ~~The provisions of Section~~  
22 ~~12-36-118 (10), exempting board disciplinary proceedings and records~~  
23 ~~from open meetings and public records requirements, shall~~ DOES not  
24 apply to a hearing or any other proceeding held by the licensing panel  
25 pursuant to this subsection (3) regarding the unlicensed practice of  
26 medicine. The procedures specified in section 12-36-118 (15), (16), (17),  
27 and (18) ~~shall~~ apply to allegations and orders regarding the unlicensed

1 practice of medicine before the licensing panel.

2 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-36-114.5, **amend**  
3 (1) and (2) as follows:

4 **12-36-114.5. Reentry license.** (1) Notwithstanding any other  
5 provision of this article, the board may issue a reentry license to a  
6 physician, ~~or~~ physician assistant, OR ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT who  
7 has not actively practiced medicine, ~~or~~ practiced as a physician assistant,  
8 OR PRACTICED AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT, as applicable, for the  
9 two-year period immediately preceding the filing of an application for a  
10 reentry license, or who has not otherwise maintained continued  
11 competency during such period, as determined by the board. The board  
12 may charge a fee for a reentry license.

13 (2) (a) In order to qualify for a reentry license, the physician, ~~or~~  
14 physician assistant, OR ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT shall submit to  
15 evaluations, assessments, and an educational program as required by the  
16 board. The board may work with a private entity that specializes in  
17 physician, ~~and~~ physician assistant, OR ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT  
18 assessment to:

19 (I) Determine the applicant's competency and areas in which  
20 improvement is needed, if any;

21 (II) Develop an educational program specific to the applicant; and

22 (III) Upon completion of the educational program, conduct an  
23 evaluation to determine the applicant's competency.

24 (b) (I) If, based on the assessment, the board determines that the  
25 applicant requires a period of supervised practice, the board may issue a  
26 reentry license, allowing the applicant to practice medicine, ~~or~~ PRACTICE  
27 as a physician assistant, OR PRACTICE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST

1 ASSISTANT, as applicable, under supervision as specified by the board.

2 (II) After satisfactory completion of the period of supervised  
3 practice, as determined by the board, the reentry licensee may apply to the  
4 board for conversion of the reentry license to a full license to practice  
5 medicine, ~~or to practice as a physician assistant, OR PRACTICE AS AN~~  
6 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT, as applicable, under this article.

7 (c) If, based on the assessment and after completion of an  
8 educational program, if prescribed, the board determines that the  
9 applicant is competent and qualified to practice medicine ~~or to practice~~  
10 ~~as a physician assistant, as specified in this article,~~ without supervision OR  
11 PRACTICE AS A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT OR AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
12 ASSISTANT WITH SUPERVISION AS SPECIFIED IN THIS ARTICLE, the board  
13 may convert the reentry license to a full license to practice medicine, ~~or~~  
14 ~~to practice as a physician assistant, OR PRACTICE AS AN~~  
15 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT, as applicable, under this article.

16 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-36-116, **amend**  
17 (1) (c) and (1) (d) as follows:

18 **12-36-116. Refusal of license - issuance subject to probation.**

19 (1) The board may refrain from issuing a license or may grant a license  
20 subject to terms of probation if the board determines that an applicant for  
21 a license:

22 (c) Has been disciplined in another state or foreign jurisdiction  
23 with respect to his or her license to practice medicine, ~~or~~ license to  
24 practice as a physician assistant, OR LICENSE TO PRACTICE AS AN  
25 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT; or

26 (d) Has not actively practiced medicine, ~~or~~ practiced as a  
27 physician assistant, OR PRACTICED AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT



1 for the two-year period immediately preceding the filing of such  
2 application or otherwise maintained continued competency during such  
3 period, as determined by the board.

4 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-36-117, **amend**  
5 (2) and (3) (b) as follows:

6 **12-36-117. Unprofessional conduct.** (2) The discipline of a  
7 license to practice medicine, ~~or~~ of a license to practice as a physician  
8 assistant, ~~OR OF A LICENSE TO PRACTICE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST~~  
9 ~~ASSISTANT~~ in another state, territory, or country shall be deemed to be  
10 unprofessional conduct. For purposes of this subsection (2), "discipline"  
11 includes any sanction required to be reported pursuant to 45 CFR 60.8.  
12 This subsection (2) ~~shall apply~~ APPLIES only to discipline that is based  
13 upon an act or omission in such other state, territory, or country that is  
14 defined substantially the same as unprofessional conduct pursuant to  
15 subsection (1) of this section.

16 (3) (b) Nothing in paragraph (a) of this subsection (3) ~~shall be~~  
17 ~~construed to prevent~~ PREVENTS disciplinary action against a licensee for  
18 practicing medicine, ~~or~~ practicing as a physician assistant, ~~OR PRACTICING~~  
19 ~~AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT~~ in violation of this article.

20 **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-36-118, **amend**  
21 (5) (g) (III) introductory portion, (5) (g) (IV), (5) (i), and (8) as follows:

22 **12-36-118. Disciplinary action by board - immunity - rules.**  
23 (5) (g) (III) If the hearings panel finds the charges proven and orders that  
24 discipline be imposed, it shall also determine the extent of such  
25 discipline, which ~~shall~~ MUST be in the form of a letter of admonition,  
26 suspension for a definite or indefinite period, or revocation of license to  
27 practice. The hearings panel also may impose a fine of up to five

1 thousand dollars per violation. In determining appropriate disciplinary  
2 action, the hearings panel shall first consider sanctions that are necessary  
3 to protect the public. Only after the panel has considered such sanctions  
4 may it consider and order requirements designed to rehabilitate the  
5 licensee or applicant. If discipline other than revocation of a license to  
6 practice is imposed, the hearings panel may also order that the licensee be  
7 granted probation and allowed to continue to practice during the period  
8 of such probation. The hearings panel may also include in any  
9 disciplinary order that allows the licensee to continue to practice such  
10 conditions as the panel may deem appropriate to assure that the licensee  
11 is physically, mentally, morally, and otherwise qualified to practice  
12 medicine, ~~or~~ practice as a physician assistant, OR PRACTICE AS AN  
13 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT in accordance with generally accepted  
14 professional standards of practice, including any or all of the following:

15 (IV) Upon the failure of the licensee to comply with any  
16 conditions imposed by the hearings panel pursuant to subparagraph (III)  
17 of this paragraph (g), unless due to conditions beyond the licensee's  
18 control, the hearings panel may order suspension of the licensee's license  
19 to practice medicine, ~~or~~ practice as a physician assistant, OR PRACTICE AS  
20 AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT in this state until such time as the  
21 licensee complies with such conditions.

22 (i) Any person whose license to practice medicine, ~~or~~ to practice  
23 as a physician assistant, OR TO PRACTICE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
24 ASSISTANT is revoked or who surrenders his or her license to avoid  
25 discipline ~~shall~~ IS not be eligible to apply for any license for two years  
26 after the date the license is revoked or surrendered. The two-year waiting  
27 period applies to any person whose license to practice medicine, to

1 practice as a physician assistant, TO PRACTICE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
2 ASSISTANT, or to practice any other health care occupation is revoked by  
3 any other legally qualified board or regulatory entity.

4 (8) If any licensee is determined to be mentally incompetent or  
5 insane by a court of competent jurisdiction and a court enters, pursuant to  
6 part 3 or part 4 of article 14 of title 15 or section 27-65-109 (4) or  
7 27-65-127, C.R.S., an order specifically finding that the mental  
8 incompetency or insanity is of such a degree that the licensee is incapable  
9 of continuing to practice medicine, ~~or practice as a physician assistant, OR~~  
10 PRACTICE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT, THE BOARD SHALL  
11 AUTOMATICALLY SUSPEND his or her license, ~~shall automatically be~~  
12 ~~suspended by the board~~, and, anything in this article to the contrary  
13 notwithstanding, such suspension ~~shall~~ MUST continue until the licensee  
14 is found by such court to be competent to practice medicine, ~~or practice~~  
15 as a physician assistant, OR PRACTICE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
16 ASSISTANT.

17 **SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-36-118.5,  
18 **amend** (1) and (2) (a) as follows:

19 **12-36-118.5. Confidential agreements to limit practice -**  
20 **violation grounds for discipline.** (1) If a physician, ~~or physician~~  
21 assistant, OR ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT suffers from a physical or  
22 mental illness or condition that renders the licensee unable to practice  
23 medicine, ~~or practice as a physician assistant, OR PRACTICE AS AN~~  
24 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT with reasonable skill and with safety to  
25 patients, the physician, ~~or physician assistant, OR ANESTHESIOLOGIST~~  
26 ASSISTANT shall notify the board of the illness or condition in a manner  
27 and within a period determined by the board. The board may require the

1 licensee to submit to an examination or refer the licensee to a peer health  
2 assistance program pursuant to section 12-36-123.5 to evaluate the extent  
3 of the illness or condition and its impact on the licensee's ability to  
4 practice with reasonable skill and with safety to patients.

5 (2) (a) Upon determining that a physician, ~~or~~ physician assistant,  
6 OR ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT with a physical or mental illness or  
7 condition is able to render limited medical services with reasonable skill  
8 and with safety to patients, the board may enter into a confidential  
9 agreement with the physician, ~~or~~ physician assistant, OR  
10 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT in which the physician, ~~or~~ physician  
11 assistant, OR ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT agrees to limit his or her  
12 practice based on the restrictions imposed by the illness or condition, as  
13 determined by the board.

14 **SECTION 11.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-36-123.5,  
15 **amend** (3.5) (b) (I) introductory portion, (3.5) (b) (I) (C), (3.5) (b) (II),  
16 (3.5) (b) (III), (3.5) (c), (3.5) (e) introductory portion, (3.5) (e) (II), and  
17 (5) as follows:

18 **12-36-123.5. Physicians', physician assistants', and**  
19 **anesthesiologist assistants' peer health assistance program.**

20 (3.5) (b) (I) As a condition of physician, ~~and~~ physician assistant, AND  
21 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT licensure and renewal in this state, every  
22 applicant shall pay, pursuant to ~~paragraphs (d) and~~ PARAGRAPH (e) of this  
23 subsection (3.5), an amount set by the board, not to exceed sixty-one  
24 dollars per year, which maximum amount may be adjusted on January 1,  
25 2011, and annually thereafter by the board to reflect:

26 (C) Differences in program utilization by physicians, ~~and~~  
27 physician assistants, AND ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS.

1 (II) Based on differences in utilization rates between physicians,  
2 ~~and~~ physician assistants, AND ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS, the board  
3 may establish a different fee ~~amount~~ AMOUNTS for physicians, ~~than the~~  
4 ~~amount—charged~~ physician assistants, AND ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
5 ASSISTANTS.

6 (III) The fee imposed pursuant to this paragraph (b) ~~shall be used~~  
7 IS to support designated providers that have been selected by the board to  
8 provide assistance to physicians, ~~and~~ physician assistants, AND  
9 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS needing help in dealing with physical,  
10 emotional, or psychological problems that may be detrimental to their  
11 ability to practice medicine, PRACTICE AS A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT, OR  
12 PRACTICE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT, AS APPLICABLE.

13 (c) The board shall select one or more peer health assistance  
14 programs as designated providers. To be eligible for designation by the  
15 board, a peer health assistance program ~~shall~~ MUST:

16 (I) Provide for the education of physicians, ~~and~~ physician  
17 assistants, AND ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS with respect to the  
18 recognition and prevention of physical, emotional, and psychological  
19 problems and provide for intervention when necessary or under  
20 circumstances ~~which~~ THAT may be established by rules promulgated by  
21 the board;

22 (II) Offer assistance to a physician, ~~or~~ physician assistant, OR  
23 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT in identifying physical, emotional, or  
24 psychological problems;

25 (III) Evaluate the extent of physical, emotional, or psychological  
26 problems and refer the physician, ~~or~~ physician assistant, OR  
27 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT for appropriate treatment;

1 (IV) Monitor the status of a physician, ~~or~~ physician assistant, OR  
2 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT who has been referred for treatment;

3 (V) Provide counseling and support for the physician, ~~or~~ physician  
4 assistant, OR ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT and for the family of any  
5 physician, ~~or~~ physician assistant, OR ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT  
6 referred for treatment;

7 (VI) Agree to receive referrals from the board;

8 (VII) Agree to make their services available to all licensed  
9 Colorado physicians, ~~and~~ licensed Colorado physician assistants, AND  
10 LICENSED COLORADO ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANTS.

11 (e) The responsibilities of the administering entity ~~shall be~~ ARE:

12 (II) To verify to the board, in a manner acceptable to the board,  
13 the names of all physician, ~~and~~ physician assistant, AND  
14 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT applicants who have paid the fee set by the  
15 board;

16 (5) Nothing in this section ~~shall be construed to create~~ CREATES  
17 any liability on the board or the state of Colorado for the actions of the  
18 board in making grants to peer assistance programs, and no civil action  
19 may be brought or maintained against the board or the state for an injury  
20 alleged to have been the result of the activities of any state-funded peer  
21 assistance program or the result of an act or omission of a physician, ~~or~~  
22 physician assistant, OR ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT participating in or  
23 referred by a state-funded peer assistance program.

24 **SECTION 12.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-36-129, **amend**  
25 (1), (2) (b), (2) (c), (3), and (4) introductory portion as follows:

26 **12-36-129. Unauthorized practice - penalties.** (1) Any person  
27 who practices or offers or attempts to practice medicine, ~~or~~ practice as a

1 physician assistant, OR PRACTICE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT  
2 within this state without an active license issued under this article  
3 commits a class 2 misdemeanor and shall be punished as provided in  
4 section 18-1.3-501, C.R.S., for the first offense, and any person  
5 committing a second or subsequent offense commits a class 6 felony and  
6 shall be punished as provided in section 18-1.3-401, C.R.S.

7 (2) Any person who engages in any of the following activities  
8 commits a class 6 felony and shall be punished as provided in section  
9 18-1.3-401, C.R.S.:

10 (b) Gives either false or forged evidence of any kind to the board  
11 or any board member in connection with an application for a license to  
12 practice medicine, ~~or~~ practice as a physician assistant, OR PRACTICE AS AN  
13 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT;

14 (c) Practices medicine, ~~or~~ practices as a physician assistant, OR  
15 PRACTICES AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT under a false or assumed  
16 name; or

17 (3) No action may be maintained against an individual who has  
18 been the recipient of services constituting the unlawful practice of  
19 medicine, ~~or the~~ unlawful practice ~~of~~ AS a physician assistant, OR  
20 UNLAWFUL PRACTICE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT, for the breach  
21 of a contract involving the unlawful practice of medicine, ~~or the~~ unlawful  
22 practice ~~of~~ AS a physician assistant, OR UNLAWFUL PRACTICE AS AN  
23 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT or the recovery of compensation for  
24 services rendered under such a contract.

25 (4) When an individual has been the recipient of services  
26 constituting the unlawful practice of medicine, ~~or the~~ unlawful practice  
27 ~~of~~ AS a physician assistant, OR UNLAWFUL PRACTICE AS AN

1 ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT, whether or not the individual knew that  
2 the rendition of the services was unlawful:

3 **SECTION 13.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-36-137, **amend**  
4 (2) (a) as follows:

5 **12-36-137. Inactive license.** (2) Any person applying for a  
6 license under this section shall:

7 (a) Provide an affidavit to the board that the applicant, after a date  
8 certain, ~~shall~~ WILL not practice medicine, ~~or~~ practice as a physician  
9 assistant, OR PRACTICE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT in this state  
10 unless the applicant is issued a license to practice medicine, ~~or~~ practice  
11 as a physician assistant, OR PRACTICE AS AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
12 ASSISTANT pursuant to subsection (5) of this section;

13 **SECTION 14.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-21-115.5,  
14 **amend** (3) (c) (II) (A) as follows:

15 **13-21-115.5. Volunteer service act - immunity - exception for**  
16 **operation of motor vehicles.** (3) As used in this section, unless the  
17 context otherwise requires:

18 (c) (II) "Volunteer" includes:

19 (A) A licensed physician, ~~and~~ a licensed physician assistant, AND  
20 A LICENSED ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT governed by ~~the provisions of~~  
21 article 36 of title 12, C.R.S., performing the practice of medicine, as  
22 defined in section 12-36-106, C.R.S., as a volunteer for a nonprofit  
23 organization, a nonprofit corporation, a governmental entity, or a hospital;

24 **SECTION 15.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 18-3-104, **amend**  
25 (4) (b) (II) as follows:

26 **18-3-104. Manslaughter.** (4) (b) For purposes of this subsection  
27 (4):



1 (II) "Medical caregiver" means a physician, registered nurse,  
2 nurse practitioner, ~~or~~ physician assistant, OR ANESTHESIOLOGIST  
3 ASSISTANT licensed by this state.

4 **SECTION 16.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 24-34-110, **amend**  
5 (3) (a) (IX) as follows:

6 **24-34-110. Medical transparency act of 2010 - disclosure of**  
7 **information about health care licensees - fines - rules - short title -**  
8 **legislative declaration.** (3) (a) As used in this section, "applicant" means  
9 a person applying for a new, active license, certification, or registration  
10 or to renew, reinstate, or reactivate an active license, certification, or  
11 registration to practice:

12 (IX) As a physician assistant OR AN ANESTHESIOLOGIST ASSISTANT  
13 pursuant to article 36 of title 12, C.R.S.;

14 **SECTION 17. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
15 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
16 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly (August  
17 8, 2012, if adjournment sine die is on May 9, 2012); except that, if a  
18 referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the  
19 state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this act  
20 within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take effect  
21 unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
22 November 2012 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
23 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.