

House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 399

SESSION: 2002 Regular Session

TOPIC: Mortuary Science Practitioners, Donated Dental Services, Volunteer Health Care Providers, Family Community Support Services Effective Date

Date: May 28, 2002

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Overview

This bill establishes emeritus registration for mortuary science practitioners, establishes a donated dental services program and a volunteer health care provider program, and clarifies the effective date for a section governing certain family community support services.

- 1 **Emeritus registration for mortuary science practitioners.** Adds § 149A.45. Establishes emeritus registration for mortuary science practitioners who are retired.
 - Subd. 1. Application.** Allows a licensed mortuary science practitioner to apply for emeritus registration if the person is retired from active practice in all jurisdictions, is not subject to any disciplinary action, and is not subject to an order imposing a suspended, conditional, or restricted license.
 - Subd. 2. Status of registrant.** Specifies that an emeritus registration is not a license to engage in the practice of mortuary science, and prohibits a person registered under this section from engaging in the practice of mortuary science.
 - Subd. 3. Continuing education requirements.** Provides that the continuing education requirements for mortuary science practitioners do not apply to a person registered under this section.
 - Subd. 4. Documentation of status.** Provides that a person granted emeritus status must be issued a certificate certifying that the person has received emeritus registration and has completed his or her active professional career licensed in good standing. Requires the registrant must pay a one-time fee of \$50 to the commissioner.
 - Subd. 5. Renewal cycle or fee.** Specifies that a person registered under this section is not subject to a registration renewal cycle or any renewal fees.
- 2 **Donated dental services.** Adds § 150A.23. (a) Requires the board of dentistry to contract with a

qualified organization to develop and operate a donated dental services program in which dentists who volunteer their services without compensation provide dental care to public program recipients and the uninsured. Requires the board to include specific performance and outcome measures as part of the contract and requires the program to:

- (1) establish a network of volunteer dentists;
- (2) establish a system to refer eligible individuals to the appropriate dentists; and
- (3) develop and implement a public awareness campaign to educate eligible individuals about the program.

(b) Allows funding for the program to be used for administrative or technical support. Requires the contracting organization to provide an annual report that: accounts for the funding appropriated; documents the number of individuals served by the program and the number of participating dentists; and provides data on meeting specific performance and outcome measures identified by the board.

3 **Volunteer health care provider program.** Adds § 214.40. Establishes a volunteer health care provider program, in which volunteer health care providers provide specified health care services through participating health care facilities or organizations.

Subd. 1. Definitions. Defines the following terms for this section: administrative services unit, charitable organization, health care facility or organization, health care provider, health care services, and medical professional liability insurance. The health care providers eligible to participate in this program are physicians, physician assistants, nurses, dentists, and dental hygienists.

Subd. 2. Establishment. Requires the administrative services unit to establish a volunteer health care provider program, in which volunteer health care providers provide specified health care services through participating health care facilities or organizations.

Subd. 3. Participation of health care facilities. To participate in the program, requires a health care facility or organization to register with the administrative services unit, be appropriately licensed, give evidence that providing health care services to uninsured or underinsured persons is its primary purpose, certify that it maintains adequate liability insurance or is adequately self-insured, agree to give specified information to the administrative services unit, and agree to pay a \$50 annual fee.

Subd. 4. Health care provider registration. To participate in the volunteer health care provider program, requires a health care provider to register with the administrative services unit, agree to provide services for free, submit a sworn statement that the provider's license is free of restrictions, identify the program and health care facilities through which services will be provided, and comply with any risk management and loss prevention policies an insurer imposes. Makes registration expire 2 years from the date of approval and allows for registration renewal.

Subd. 5. Revocation of eligibility and registration. Allows the administrative services unit to suspend, revoke, or condition, for cause, a health care provider's eligibility to participate in the program.

Subd. 6. Board notice of disciplinary action. Requires a health-related licensing board to immediately notify the administrative services unit if a contested case is begun against a participating health care provider, or if disciplinary action is imposed.

Subd. 7. Medical professional liability insurance. Requires the administrative services unit to buy medical professional liability insurance, if available, for health care providers participating in the program who do not otherwise have medical professional liability insurance. Specifies that this coverage must be limited to covering volunteer health care services provided.

4 **Effective date; S.F. No. 3099.** Specifies that a provision that was adopted in S.F. 3099 related to the continuation of family community support services is effective the day following final enactment of this section.

5 **Appropriation.** Paragraph (a) appropriates \$75,000 in FY 2003 from the health care access fund to the board of dentistry to implement the donated dental services program. Specifies that the appropriation is part of the base-level funding in FY 2004 and FY 2005 and that funding ends in FY 2006.

Paragraph (b) appropriates \$50,000 from the state government special revenue fund to the administrative services unit to cover the cost of purchasing medical professional liability insurance under the volunteer health care provider program. Makes this appropriation available until expended. If this appropriation is expended, directs the administrative services unit to raise money through fees assessed by the boards of medical practice, dentistry, and nursing. The amount raised by each board shall be the amount of the appropriation spent to buy coverage for providers regulated by that board.