

Second Regular Session  
Seventy-second General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 20-0455.01 Richard Sweetman x4333

SENATE BILL 20-087

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SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Todd,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

Mullica,

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Senate Committees  
Health & Human Services

House Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING REQUIRING CENTRAL SERVICE TECHNICIANS TO POSSESS  
102 PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS.

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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://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

A central service technician (CST) is a person who decontaminates, inspects, assembles, packages, and sterilizes reusable medical instruments or devices in a hospital or ambulatory surgical center. The bill generally prohibits any individual from functioning as a CST unless the individual has successfully passed a nationally accredited exam and holds at least one of 2 professional credentials. The bill also

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing statute.  
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

generally prohibits hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers from employing a CST who does not satisfy these requirements.

However, the new requirements do not apply to an individual who:

- ! Was employed as a CST in one or more hospitals or ambulatory surgical centers for a cumulative period of at least one year during the period beginning December 31, 2015, and ending December 31, 2020;
- ! Is employed as a CST by a hospital or ambulatory surgical center on December 31, 2020; and
- ! Remains continuously employed as a CST after December 31, 2020.

Additionally, an individual who does not satisfy the new requirements may function as a CST in a hospital or ambulatory surgical center for up to 18 months so long as the individual continues to make a good-faith effort to satisfy the requirements during this time.

A hospital or ambulatory surgical center may employ a CST who does not satisfy the new requirements if the CST qualifies for one of the described exceptions.

At the request of an individual who was employed as a CST by a hospital or ambulatory surgical center, the hospital or ambulatory surgical center shall verify in writing the individual's dates of employment or the contract period during which the individual provided services.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **add** 25-3-124 as  
3 follows:

4           **25-3-124. Central service technician - examination and**  
5 **certification required - exceptions - verification of employment -**  
6 **definitions.** (1) AS USED IN THIS SECTION, UNLESS THE CONTEXT  
7 OTHERWISE REQUIRES:

8           (a) "AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER" MEANS AN AMBULATORY  
9 SURGICAL CENTER LICENSED PURSUANT TO SECTION 25-3-101.

10           (b) "CENTRAL SERVICE TECHNICIAN" MEANS A PERSON WHO  
11 DECONTAMINATES, INSPECTS, ASSEMBLES, PACKAGES, AND STERILIZES  
12 REUSABLE MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS OR DEVICES IN A HOSPITAL OR  
13 AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER.

1 (c) "HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH  
2 IN SECTION 13-64-202 (4).

3 (d) "HEALTH CARE SERVICES" HAS THE MEANING SET FORTH IN  
4 SECTION 25-49-102 (6).

5 (e) "HOSPITAL" MEANS A HOSPITAL LICENSED PURSUANT TO  
6 SECTION 25-3-101.

7 (2) (a) EXCEPT AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION,  
8 AN INDIVIDUAL SHALL NOT FUNCTION AS A CENTRAL SERVICE TECHNICIAN  
9 UNLESS THE INDIVIDUAL:

10 (I) HAS SUCCESSFULLY PASSED A NATIONALLY ACCREDITED  
11 CENTRAL SERVICE EXAM FOR CENTRAL SERVICE TECHNICIANS; AND

12 (II) HOLDS AND MAINTAINS AT LEAST ONE OF THE FOLLOWING  
13 CREDENTIALS, WHICH CREDENTIALS ARE ADMINISTERED BY A NATIONALLY  
14 ACCREDITED CENTRAL SERVICE TECHNICIAN CREDENTIALING  
15 ORGANIZATION:

16 (A) THE CERTIFIED REGISTERED CENTRAL SERVICE TECHNICIAN  
17 CREDENTIAL; OR

18 (B) THE CERTIFIED STERILE PROCESSING AND DISTRIBUTION  
19 TECHNICIAN CREDENTIAL.

20 (b) EXCEPT AS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3) OF THIS SECTION,  
21 NEITHER A HOSPITAL NOR AN AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER SHALL  
22 EMPLOY OR OTHERWISE RETAIN THE SERVICES OF A CENTRAL SERVICE  
23 TECHNICIAN UNLESS THE CENTRAL SERVICE TECHNICIAN SATISFIES THE  
24 REQUIREMENTS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION.

25 (3) (a) THE REQUIREMENTS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF  
26 THIS SECTION DO NOT APPLY TO AN INDIVIDUAL WHO:

27 (I) WAS EMPLOYED AS A CENTRAL SERVICE TECHNICIAN IN ONE OR

1 MORE HOSPITALS OR AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTERS FOR A  
2 CUMULATIVE PERIOD OF AT LEAST ONE YEAR DURING THE PERIOD  
3 BEGINNING DECEMBER 31, 2015, AND ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2020;

4 (II) WAS EMPLOYED AS A CENTRAL SERVICE TECHNICIAN BY A  
5 HOSPITAL OR AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER ON DECEMBER 31, 2020;  
6 AND

7 (III) REMAINS CONTINUOUSLY EMPLOYED AS A CENTRAL SERVICE  
8 TECHNICIAN AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2020.

9 (b) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO DOES NOT SATISFY THE REQUIREMENTS  
10 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2)(a) OF THIS SECTION MAY FUNCTION AS A  
11 CENTRAL SERVICE TECHNICIAN FOR UP TO EIGHTEEN MONTHS SO LONG AS  
12 THE INDIVIDUAL CONTINUES TO MAKE A GOOD-FAITH EFFORT TO SATISFY  
13 THE REQUIREMENTS DURING THIS TIME.

14 (c) A HOSPITAL OR AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER MAY EMPLOY  
15 A CENTRAL SERVICE TECHNICIAN DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (3)(a) OR  
16 (3)(b) OF THIS SECTION.

17 (4) NOTHING IN THIS SECTION PROHIBITS A HOSPITAL OR  
18 AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER FROM EMPLOYING THE FOLLOWING  
19 INDIVIDUALS TO PERFORM THE TASKS OR FUNCTIONS OF A CENTRAL  
20 SERVICE TECHNICIAN:

21 (a) A HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL;

22 (b) A PERSON WHO HOLDS AND MAINTAINS A REGISTRATION,  
23 CERTIFICATION, OR LICENSE TO PERFORM HEALTH CARE SERVICES THAT IS  
24 ISSUED BY A STATE OR A NATIONALLY ACCREDITED CREDENTIALING  
25 ORGANIZATION; OR

26 (c) A STUDENT OR INTERN ACTING UNDER THE DIRECT  
27 SUPERVISION OF A HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL AS PART OF THE

1 STUDENT'S OR INTERN'S TRAINING OR INTERNSHIP.

2 (5) AT THE REQUEST OF AN INDIVIDUAL WHO WAS EMPLOYED AS  
3 A CENTRAL SERVICE TECHNICIAN BY A HOSPITAL OR AMBULATORY  
4 SURGICAL CENTER, THE HOSPITAL OR AMBULATORY SURGICAL CENTER  
5 SHALL VERIFY IN WRITING THE INDIVIDUAL'S DATES OF EMPLOYMENT OR  
6 THE CONTRACT PERIOD DURING WHICH THE INDIVIDUAL PROVIDED  
7 SERVICES.

8 **SECTION 2. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
9 takes effect December 31, 2020; except that, if a referendum petition is  
10 filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against  
11 this act or an item, section, or part of this act within the ninety-day period  
12 after final adjournment of the general assembly, then the act, item,  
13 section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the  
14 general election to be held in November 2020 and, in such case, will take  
15 effect December 31, 2020, or on the date of the official declaration of the  
16 vote thereon by the governor, whichever is later.