

SENATE No. 2913

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—
**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**
—

SENATE, June 6, 2022.

The committee on Senate Ways and Means to whom was referred the Senate Bill regulating central service technicians (Senate, No. 1522), - reports, recommending that the same ought to pass with an amendment substituting a new draft with the same title (Senate, No. 2913).

For the committee,
Michael J. Rodrigues

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**In the One Hundred and Ninety-Second General Court
(2021-2022)**

An Act regulating central service technicians.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Chapter 111 of the General Laws is hereby amended by adding the
2 following section:-

3 Section 244. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms shall have the following
4 meanings unless the context clearly requires otherwise:

5 “Allied health professional”, a person who holds and maintains a registration,
6 certification or license to perform health care services by a state or a nationally accredited
7 credentialing organization.

8 “Central service technician”, a person who decontaminates, inspects, assembles,
9 packages or sterilizes reusable medical instruments or devices used by a health care facility.

10 “Health care practitioner”, a person licensed or registered under this chapter or chapter
11 112, including an intern, resident, fellow or medical officer who conducts or assists with the
12 performance of surgery.

13 “Health care facility”, a hospital, as defined in section 52, a rural hospital, as defined in
14 said section 52, or a free-standing ambulatory surgery center that provides inpatient or outpatient
15 surgical services regardless of whether such services are conducted for charity or for profit or
16 whether the center is subject to section 25C; provided, however, that “health care facility” shall
17 not include a dental office or private office of a health care practitioner.

18 (b) A health care facility shall not employ, or otherwise contract with, a central service
19 technician unless the central service technician has successfully passed a nationally accredited
20 central service exam for central service technicians and holds and maintains 1 of the following
21 credentials administered by a nationally accredited central service technician credentialing
22 organization: (i) the certified registered central service technician credential; (ii) the certified
23 sterile processing and distribution technician credential; or (iii) a credential that is substantially
24 equivalent to the credential in clause (i) or clause (ii) as determined by the department.

25 (c) A central service technician employed by or who contracts with a health care facility
26 shall annually complete 10 hours of continuing education credits in the area related to the
27 functions of a central service technician.

28 (d) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the following persons from performing the tasks
29 or functions of a central service technician: (i) a health care practitioner; (ii) an allied health
30 professional; or (iii) a student or intern performing the functions of a central service technician
31 under the direct supervision of a health care as part of the student’s or intern’s training or
32 internship.

33 (e) A health care facility shall, upon the written request of a central service technician,
34 verify, in writing, the central service technician's dates of employment or the contract period
35 during which the central service technician provided services to the health care facility.

36 SECTION 2. Not more than 90 days after the effective date of this act, the department of
37 public health shall promulgate the regulations necessary to implement this act.

38 SECTION 3. Section 1 shall take effect 18 months after the effective date of this act.