

HOUSE SUMMARY OF SENATE AMENDMENTS**HB 404****2017 Regular Session****Hensgens**

HEALTH CARE: Amends the Polysomnographic Practice Act

Synopsis of Senate Amendments

1. Changes the enumerated list of approved educational courses that qualify for the licensing exemption to an authorization for the LSBME to promulgate a list of approved courses.
2. Keeps the repeal of the requirement that an applicant for a polysomnographic technologist license be a graduate of a CAAHEP-accredited educational course but restores the requirement that the applicant pass a national exam.
3. Establishes a licensure exception for respiratory therapy students enrolled in a course accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care if the polysomnographic services are performed as a part of the course and under supervision of a physician or licensed polysomnographic technologist.
4. Deletes the outdated and unused definition for the "Association of Polysomnographic Technologists".
5. Makes technical changes.

Digest of Bill as Finally Passed by Senate

Present law provides that a polysomnographic technologist license may be issued by the La. State Board of Medical Examiners (LSBME) if the applicant demonstrates all of the following:

- (1) Good moral character.
- (2) Current credentials as a registered polysomnographic technologist granted by the Board of Registered Polysomnographic Technologists or equivalent organization approved by the LSBME.
- (3) The satisfaction of all other requirements of the LSBME.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law further requires the following additional requirements to be met after July 1, 2017:

- (1) Applicant has graduated from a course accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Program (CAAHEP).
- (2) Applicant has passed an examination that is administered as a component of a certification program that is accredited by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies, the American National Standards Institute, or other national accrediting organizations approved by the LSBME.

Proposed law repeals the requirement that the applicant be a graduate of a CAAHEP-accredited program.

Present law prohibits an individual from engaging or attempting to engage in the practice of polysomnography or performing or attempting to perform polysomnograms unless the individual is licensed by the LSBME.

Proposed law retains present law.

Present law provides a licensure exception for an individual enrolled in a program accredited by CAAHEP if both of the following conditions are met:

- (1) The polysomnographic procedure or service is within the individual's course of study.
- (2) The polysomnography procedure or service is performed under the direct supervision of a physician or a polysomnographic technologist licensed by the LSBME.

Proposed law expands the exception to any individual pursuing a course of study in a polysomnographic technology education program approved by the LSBME.

Present law exempts licensed respiratory therapists from the requirement to have a license from the LSBME to perform polysomnography.

Proposed law retains present law and establishes a licensure exception for an individual pursuing a course of study in a program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Respiratory Care if the polysomnographic procedure or service is within the individual's course of study and is performed under the direct supervision of a physician or polysomnographic technologist licensed by LSBME.

Present law defines "Association of Polysomnographic Technologists" as the national trade association for the promotion and advancement of the interests of polysomnographic technologists and technicians.

Proposed law repeals present law.

Requires the LSBME to promulgate all administrative rules and amendments necessary to bring its policies and procedures into conformance with the provisions of proposed law.

(Amends R.S. 37:2865(A)(3) and 2869(A)(3) and (B); Repeals R.S. 37:2862(4))