

DRAFT
BOARD OF HEALTH PROFESIONS
REGULATORY RESEARCH COMMITTEE
PUBLIC HEARING ON EMERGING PROFESSIONS
March 31, 2010

TIME AND PLACE: The public hearing was called to order at 9:03 a.m. at the Department of Health Professions. The purpose for the hearing was to receive public comment pursuant to its study into the need to regulate the emerging profession: Surgical Assistants and Surgical Technologists.

PRESIDING CHAIR: Damien Howell, P.T.

MEMBERS PRESENT: No members were present

STAFF PRESENT: Elizabeth A. Carter, Ph.D., Executive Director, Board of Health Professions
Justin Crow, Research Assistant
Laura Chapman, Operations Manager

OTHERS PRESENT: David Jennette
Sandra Luthie
Helen French, RN
Deborah Ivory
Karin Addison
Theresa Cooper
Christine Sparkman
Bonnie P. Vencill, RN
Jake Jacobs, CSA
Frances Dargan, CST, CFA
Rebecca Music, CST
Susan Ward, VHHA

COURT REPORTER: Beth Aliff, Farnsworth & Taylor Reporting, LLC

PUBLIC COMMENT: Sandra Luthie, CST
Ms. Luthie feels that the Surgical Tech and Surgical Assistants need to be separate. She asked who would be put in charge of regulating hospitals and schools that provide training. She said she approves all four versions.

Helen French, RN
Ms. French stated that she feels that Virginia should first register, define roles and then license accredited/educated Surgical Techs and Surgical Assistants. She is NOT in agreement with “grandfathering”.

Theresa Cooper, CFA, CST
Ms. Cooper stated that we need to ensure that all Surgical

Techs and Surgical Assistants are accredited. She is NOT in agreement with “grandfathering”.

Catherine Sparkman, Association of Surgical Technologists, Director of Government Affairs
She feels that the two tier regulatory approach is the most effective. She will be submitting written comment prior to the April 16, 2010 deadline.

Bonnie Vencill, RN, CNOR,
AORN State Coordinator
VCORN would like the definition of a surgical technologist and surgical nurse. They would like clarification that all educational programs should be accredited. She agree with certification of surgical technologists.

Frances Dargen, CST, CFA
Henrico Doctors Hospital
Ms. Dargen received her training in the military with additional training as a Surgical Assistant at Chesapeake General Hospital. She is in agreement with “grandfathering”.

Rebecca Music, CST
Ms. Music feels that it is possible to “practice and function” at being a Surgical Technologist. Prefers two tiered approach. She feels that hospital based training is not a good approach. She stated she agrees with “grandfathering”, but she feels that they need to seek certification as well.

Mary Armstrong, CSA
Ms. Armstrong agrees that it is possible to “practice and function” in her role. She agrees with “grandfathering” as long as time is given for certification to be obtained. She stated that she feels that hospital based accreditation is the lowest level training.

ADJOURNMENT:

The public hearing adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Damien Howell, P.T.
Chair

Elizabeth A. Carter, Ph.D. Executive Director
Board of Health Professions