

Senate Bill 66

By: Senators Carter of the 1st, Unterman of the 45th, Goggans of the 7th and Grant of the 25th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

1 To amend Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to  
2 physicians, acupuncture, physician assistants, cancer and glaucoma treatment, respiratory  
3 care, clinical perfusionists, and orthotics and prosthetics practice, so as to revise continuing  
4 education requirements relative to clinical perfusionists; to revise the definition of  
5 "perfusion"; to revise requirements relating to renewal of licenses for clinical perfusionists;  
6 to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other purposes.

7 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

8 **SECTION 1.**

9 Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to physicians,  
10 acupuncture, physician assistants, cancer and glaucoma treatment, respiratory care, clinical  
11 perfusionists, and orthotics and prosthetics practice, is amended by revising subsection (a)  
12 of Code Section 43-34-11, relating to continuing education requirements, as follows:

13 "(a)(1) The board shall be authorized to require persons seeking renewal of a license,  
14 certificate, or permit under this chapter to complete board approved continuing education  
15 of not less than 40 hours biennially. The board shall be authorized to approve courses  
16 offered by institutions of higher learning, specialty societies, or professional  
17 organizations, including, but not limited to, the American Medical Association, the  
18 National Medical Association, and the American Osteopathic Association, the number  
19 of hours required, and the category in which these hours should be earned. This  
20 paragraph shall not apply to respiratory care professionals, ~~or persons seeking renewal~~  
21 of certification as respiratory care professionals, clinical perfusionists, or persons seeking  
22 renewal of licensure as a clinical perfusionist.

23 (2) The board shall be authorized to require persons seeking renewal of certification as  
24 respiratory care professionals under Article 6 of this chapter to complete board approved  
25 continuing education. The board shall be authorized to establish the number of hours of  
26 continuing education required biennially for renewal of certification as a respiratory care

27 professional and the categories in which these hours should be earned. The board shall  
 28 be authorized to approve courses offered by institutions of higher learning, specialty  
 29 societies, or professional organizations. Any action taken by the board pursuant to this  
 30 paragraph shall be taken in conformity with the provisions of Code Section 43-34-143.  
 31 (3) The board shall be authorized to require persons seeking renewal of licensure as  
 32 clinical perfusionists under Article 7 of this chapter to complete board approved  
 33 continuing education. The board shall be authorized to establish the number of hours of  
 34 continuing education required biennially for renewal of licensure as a clinical perfusionist  
 35 and the categories in which these hours should be earned. The board shall be authorized  
 36 to approve courses offered by institutions of higher learning, specialty societies, or  
 37 professional organizations. Any action taken by the board pursuant to this paragraph  
 38 shall be taken in conformity with the provisions of Code Section 43-34-172."

39

## SECTION 2.

40 Said chapter is further amended by revising paragraph (6) of Code Section 43-34-171,  
 41 relating to definitions relative to the "Clinical Perfusionist Licensure Act," as follows:

42 "(6) 'Perfusion' means the functions necessary for the support, treatment, measurement,  
 43 or supplementation of the cardiovascular, circulatory, or respiratory system or other  
 44 organ, or a combination of such activities, and to ensure the safe management of  
 45 physiologic functions by monitoring and analyzing the parameters of the systems under  
 46 the order and supervision of a physician, including, but not limited to:

47 ~~(A) The use of extracorporeal circulation; long-term cardiopulmonary support~~  
 48 ~~techniques, including extracorporeal carbon dioxide removal and extracorporeal~~  
 49 ~~membrane oxygenation; and associated therapeutic and diagnostic technologies;~~

50 ~~(B) Counterpulsation, ventricular assistance, autotransfusion, blood conservation~~  
 51 ~~techniques, myocardial and organ preservation, extracorporeal life support, and isolated~~  
 52 ~~limb perfusion;~~

53 ~~(C) The use of techniques involving blood management, advanced life support, and~~  
 54 ~~other related functions;~~

55 ~~(D) In the performance of the acts described in subparagraphs (A) through (C) of this~~  
 56 ~~paragraph:~~

57 ~~(i) The administration of:~~

58 ~~(I) Pharmacological and therapeutic agents; or~~

59 ~~(II) Blood products or anesthetic agents through the extracorporeal circuit or~~  
 60 ~~through an intravenous line as ordered by a physician; or~~

61 ~~(ii) The performance and use of:~~

62 ~~(I) Coagulation monitoring and analysis;~~

- 63 ~~(H) Physiologic monitoring and analysis;~~  
 64 ~~(III) Blood gas and chemistry monitoring and analysis;~~  
 65 ~~(IV) Hematological monitoring and analysis;~~  
 66 ~~(V) Hypothermia and hyperthermia;~~  
 67 ~~(VI) Hemoconcentration and hemodilution; and~~  
 68 ~~(VII) Hemodialysis; and~~  
 69 ~~(E) The observation of signs and symptoms related to perfusion services, the~~  
 70 ~~determination of whether the signs and symptoms exhibit abnormal characteristics, and~~  
 71 ~~the implementation of appropriate reporting, clinical perfusion protocols, or changes~~  
 72 ~~in, or the initiation of, emergency procedures.~~  
 73 (A) Extracorporeal support, including:  
 74 (i) Cardiopulmonary bypass for adult, pediatric, and neonatal patients;  
 75 (ii) Cardiopulmonary bypass for congenital and acquired cardiovascular disorders;  
 76 (iii) Extracorporeal circulatory support for renal, neurological, hepatic, and vascular  
 77 surgery;  
 78 (iv) Extracorporeal resuscitation; and  
 79 (v) Extracorporeal circulation for long-term support of failing respiratory or cardiac  
 80 function, or both;  
 81 (B) Associated extracorporeal support functions, including:  
 82 (i) Myocardial protection;  
 83 (ii) Hemofiltration and hemodialysis;  
 84 (iii) Anticoagulation and hemostasis monitoring, analysis, and intervention;  
 85 (iv) Thermal regulation, including hypothermia and hyperthermia;  
 86 (v) Blood gas and blood chemistry monitoring, analysis, and intervention;  
 87 (vi) Physiological monitoring, analysis, and intervention; and  
 88 (vii) Administration of blood components, pharmaceuticals, chemotherapeutic, and  
 89 anesthetic agents as directed by a licensed physician;  
 90 (C) Heart failure therapy and support, including:  
 91 (i) Ventricular assist device management;  
 92 (ii) Intra-aortic balloon counterpulsation;  
 93 (iii) Temporary pacemaker management;  
 94 (iv) External counterpulsation;  
 95 (v) Transportation of patient on extracorporeal support; and  
 96 (vi) Periodic flow augmentation therapy;  
 97 (D) Blood management, including:  
 98 (i) Autotransfusion;  
 99 (ii) Platelet gel production; and



135 ~~(g) The board may reinstate without reexamination an expired license of a person who was~~  
136 ~~licensed in this state, moved to another state or states, is currently licensed or certified, and~~  
137 ~~has been in practice in another state or states for two years immediately preceding the~~  
138 ~~person's application to reinstate a license. The person shall pay the required fee as~~  
139 ~~established by the board."~~

140 **SECTION 4.**

141 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.