

Senate Bill 162

By: Senators Hufstetler of the 52nd, Watson of the 1st, Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Tillery of the 19th and Walker III of the 20th

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

1 To amend Article 1 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated,
2 relating to Georgia Composite Medical Board, so as to provide for the board to implement
3 an automated credentialing system for healthcare providers in this state; to provide for
4 requirements; to provide for related matters; to repeal conflicting laws; and for other
5 purposes.

6 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

7 **SECTION 1.**

8 Article 1 of Chapter 34 of Title 43 of the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, relating to
9 Georgia Composite Medical Board, is amended in Code Section 43-34-6, relating to board
10 as an independent agency, by adding a new subsection to read as follows:

11 "(k) No later than July 1, 2025, the board shall implement a data management software
12 system to streamline and automate the credentialing process of physicians, advanced
13 practice registered nurses, licensed physician assistants, and anesthesiologist assistants.
14 No later than October 1, 2025, such system shall be fully operational for other healthcare
15 providers. Such system shall:

- 16 (1) Organize, verify, and store the credentials of healthcare providers, allowing for a
17 single verification process that results in authorization statewide, provided that a
18 healthcare facility agrees to such authorization;
19 (2) Be customizable so that a healthcare facility can add requirements to meet such
20 facility's rules, regulations, or bylaws;
21 (3) Be easily and securely accessible by other state medical boards, healthcare providers,
22 and healthcare facilities;
23 (4) Notify any individual submitting credentials into such system when his or her
24 application is deficient, what such deficiency is, and when such application is complete;
25 (5) Process complete applications within 30 days and process reappointments within two
26 weeks;
27 (6) Provide for the registration of nurse protocol agreements for advanced practice
28 registered nurses and job descriptions for licensed physician assistants and
29 anesthesiologist assistants; and
30 (7) Perform any other functions the board deems necessary."

31 **SECTION 2.**

32 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.