

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

**AS PASSED SENATE**

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 licensing system for certain 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 new subsections to read as follows:

11 "(k) No later than October 1, 2025, the board shall implement a data management software  
12 system to streamline and automate the licensing process for physicians, physician  
13 assistants, and anesthesiologist assistants. No later than January 1, 2026, such system shall  
14 be fully operational for other healthcare providers licensed by the board.

15 (l) The system provided for in subsection (k) of this Code section may:

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- 16 (1) Organize, verify, and store the licenses of healthcare providers, allowing for a single  
17 verification process that results in authorization state wide, provided that a healthcare  
18 facility, licensee, or applicant inputs the credentialing information and agrees to such  
19 authorization;
- 20 (2) If available, be customizable so that a healthcare facility can add requirements to  
21 meet such facility's rules, regulations, or bylaws;
- 22 (3) Provide a public facing page that is easily and securely accessible by other state  
23 medical boards, healthcare providers, and healthcare facilities;
- 24 (4) Notify any individual submitting credentials into such system when his or her  
25 application is deficient, what such deficiency is, and when such application is complete;
- 26 (5) Process complete applications within 30 days and process reappointments within two  
27 weeks;
- 28 (6) Provide for the registration of nurse protocol agreements for advanced practice  
29 registered nurses and job descriptions for licensed physician assistants and  
30 anesthesiologist assistants;
- 31 (7) Allow any healthcare facility to accept the information for licensing as acceptance  
32 for credentialing and any healthcare provider to add additional requirements for  
33 credentialing in their facility; and
- 34 (8) Perform any other functions the board deems necessary to improve licensing  
35 processes under this chapter."

36 **SECTION 2.**

37 All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this Act are repealed.