

affidavits, envelopes and certificates, as herein required, and there shall be provided also in each election poll book a separate registration for absent voters. Any elector receiving the certificate required in section 2 of this act shall also receive a blank affidavit and envelopes, as required by this act, from the registration officer, and which affidavit and envelopes the elector will present to the election officers at the time he offers to vote.

SEC. 7. Any person who violates any of the provisions of this act, relating to swearing and voting, shall be guilty of a felony and shall be punished by imprisonment of not more than five years. Penalty.

Passed the Senate February 26, 1917.

Passed the House March 6, 1917.

Approved by the Governor March 16, 1917.

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## CHAPTER 160.

[S. B. 96.]

### LICENSING PRACTICE OF MIDWIFERY.

AN ACT relating to the practice of midwifery, regulating the same, providing for the examination and licensing of applicants, and providing penalties for the violation of this act.

*Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Washington:*

SECTION 1. Any person who shall practice midwifery in this state after July first, one thousand nine hundred and seventeen, shall first obtain from the state board of medical examiners of the State of Washington a license so to do, and the said board is authorized to grant such license after examination of the applicant as hereinafter provided. License required.

SEC. 2. Any person seeking to be examined shall present to the said board, at least ten days before the commencement of the said examination, a written application on a form or forms provided by the said board setting forth under affidavit the name, age, nativity, residence, Application for license.

moral character and time spent in obtaining a common school education or its equivalent; that the candidate has received a certificate or diploma from a legally incorporated school on midwifery in good standing, granted after at least two courses of instruction of at least seven months each in different calendar years or a certificate or diploma in a foreign institution on midwifery of equal requirements conferring the full right to practice midwifery in the country in which it was issued. The diploma must bear the seal of the institution from which the applicant was graduated. Foreign applicants must present with the application a translation of the foreign certificate or diploma made by and under the seal of the consulate of the country in which the said certificate or diploma was issued. The application must be endorsed by a duly registered reputable physician of the State of Washington.

Admission  
to ex-  
amination.

SEC. 3. If the application is approved and the candidate shall have deposited the sum of fifteen dollars (\$15.00) as an examination fee with the secretary of the said board, the candidate shall be admitted to the examination, and in case of failure to pass the examination, may be re-examined at any regular examination within one year without the payment of an additional fee, said fee to be retained by the board after failure to pass the second examination.

Examination.

SEC. 4. The state board of medical examiners is hereby authorized and empowered to execute the provisions of this act and shall hold examinations in midwifery on the first Monday in January and July, at such places as the board may select, from ten o'clock a. m. to five o'clock p. m., and at such other times as the said board may deem expedient. The examinations may be oral, written, or both, and shall be in the English language; if desired in any other language, an interpreter may be provided by said board upon notification of the secretary at least ten days before examination. The cost of said interpreter shall be defrayed by the applicant for the license.

Examinations shall be held on the following subjects: Subjects.

- (1) Anatomy of pelvis and female genital organs.
- (2) Physiology of menstruation.
- (3) Diagnosis and management of pregnancy.
- (4) Diagnosis of foetal presentation and position.
- (5) Mechanism and management of normal labor.
- (6) Management of perperium.
- (7) Injuries to the genital organs following labor.
- (8) Sepsis and anti-sepsis in relation to labor.
- (9) Special care of the bed and lying-in room.
- (10) Hygiene of mother and infant.
- (11) Asphyxiation, convulsions, malformation and infectious diseases of the new-born.
- (12) Causes and effects of ophthalmia neonatorum.
- (13) Abnormal conditions requiring attention of a physician.
- (14) Requirements of the vital statistics laws pertaining to the reporting of births and the rules of the state board of health relative to ophthalmia neonatorum or other infectious diseases of the new-born.

Said examination shall be sufficient to test the scientific and practical fitness of candidates to practice midwifery and the board may require examination on other subjects relating to midwifery from time to time. All application papers shall be deposited with the secretary of the state board of medical examiners and there retained for at least one year, when they may be destroyed.

If said examination is satisfactory, said board shall issue to such candidate a license with the certified copy signed by its president and secretary, and attested by its seal, entitling the candidate to practice midwifery in the State of Washington: *Provided*, That said license shall not authorize the holder to prescribe any drugs or medicine except some household remedy after the birth of the infant.

Issuance  
of license.

SEC. 5. Every person holding a license authorized in this act must have the same recorded in the office of the county clerk in the county in which the holder is practicing

Registration  
of license.

her profession, and the fact of such recording shall be endorsed on the certificate by the county clerk recording the same. Every such person, on a change of her residence, must have the license recorded in the county to which she shall have removed. The absence of such record shall be *prima facie* evidence of the want of possession of such certificate; and any person practicing midwifery in this state without first having filed her certificate with the county clerk as herein provided, shall be deemed guilty of a misdemeanor.

Record book.

SEC. 6. The county clerk shall keep in a book provided for the purpose, a complete list of the certificates recorded by him, with the date of the record, and such book shall be open to public inspection during his office hours.

Grounds for refusal or revocation of license.

SEC. 7. Said board of medical examiners may refuse to grant or may revoke any license herein provided for, for any of the following reasons: Persistent inebriety; the practice of criminal abortion; the commission of any crime involving moral turpitude; presentation of a certificate or diploma for registration or license illegally obtained; application for examination under fraudulent misrepresentation; neglect or refusal to make proper returns to the health officer or health department of births or of puerperal contagion or infectious diseases within the required limit of time; failure to record her license with the clerk of the county in which the licentiate resides or practices; failure to secure the attendance of a reputable physician in a case of miscarriage, hemorrhage, abnormal presentation or position, retained placenta, convulsions, prolapse of the cord, fever during parturient stage, inflammation or discharge from the eyes of a new-born infant, or whenever there are any abnormal or unhealthy symptoms in either the mother or the infant during labor or the puerperium.

Right to hearing.

In complaints of violations of the provisions of this section, the accused shall be furnished with a copy of the complaint and be given a hearing before said board in

person or by attorney. Any midwife refused admittance to the examination or whose license has been revoked who shall attempt or continue the practice of midwifery, shall be subject to the penalties hereinafter prescribed.

SEC. 8. Any person shall be regarded as practicing midwifery within the meaning of this act who shall render medical aid to a woman in childbirth for a fee or compensation or who shall advertise as a midwife by signs, printed cards or otherwise. Nothing shall be construed in this act to prohibit gratuitous services. It shall be the duty of a midwife to always secure the immediate services of a legally qualified physician whenever any abnormal signs or symptoms appear either in the mother or the infant.

"Practicing midwifery" defined.

SEC. 9. Any person hereafter practicing midwifery in this state without first complying with the provisions of this act, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be punished by fine of not less than fifty dollars (\$50.00) nor more than two hundred fifty dollars (\$250.00), or by imprisonment in the county jail for not less than ten days nor more than six months, or both, at the discretion of the court.

Penalty for violations of act.

SEC. 10. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent with the provisions of this act may be and the same are hereby repealed: *Provided*, This act shall not repeal the provisions of the vital statistics laws of the state, but shall be deemed as additional and cumulative provisions.

Repealing clause.

SEC. 11. The words "certificate" and "license" shall be known as interchangeable terms in this chapter.

"Certificate" and "license" synonymous.

SEC. 12. This act shall not be construed to interfere in any way with the practice of religion, nor be held to apply to or regulate any kind of treatment by prayer.

Construction of act.

Passed the Senate March 2, 1917.

Passed the House March 6, 1917.

Approved by the Governor March 16, 1917.