

Sec. 1. Section 1, chapter 30, Laws of 1971 ex. sess. as amended by section 1, chapter 190, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. and RCW 18.71A.010 are each amended to read as follows:

(1) "Physician's assistant" means((:

~~(a))~~ a person who is enrolled in, or who has satisfactorily completed, a board approved training program designed to prepare persons to practice medicine to a limited extent(~~;~~ or

~~(b) A person who is a university medical graduate of a foreign medical school or college)).~~

(2) "Board" means the board of medical examiners.

(3) "Practice medicine" shall have the meaning defined in RCW (~~(18-71.010)~~) 18.71.011.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. A new section is added to chapter 18.71A RCW to read as follows:

Foreign medical school graduates shall not be eligible for registration as physician assistants after July 1, 1989. Those applying on or before that date shall remain eligible to register as a physician assistant after July 1, 1989: PROVIDED, That the graduate does not violate chapter 18.130 RCW or the rules of the board. The board shall adopt rules regarding applications for registration. The rules shall include board approval of training as required in RCW 18.71.051(1) and receipt of original translated transcripts directly from the medical school.

Passed the House March 5, 1988.

Passed the Senate February 29, 1988.

Approved by the Governor March 18, 1988.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 18, 1988.

CHAPTER 114

[Substitute House Bill No. 1170]

WORKERS' COMPENSATION—MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS FOR PERMANENT DISABILITIES

AN ACT Relating to medical examinations on behalf of the department of labor and industries; adding new sections to chapter 51.32 RCW; creating a new section; making an appropriation; and declaring an emergency.

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

NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. It is the intent of the legislature that medical examinations for determining permanent disabilities be conducted fairly and objectively by qualified examiners and with respect for the dignity of the injured worker.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. (1) The department shall develop standards for the conduct of special medical examinations to determine permanent disabilities, including, but not limited to:

- (a) The qualifications of persons conducting the examinations;
- (b) The criteria for conducting the examinations, including guidelines for the appropriate treatment of injured workers during the examination; and
- (c) The content of examination reports.

(2) The department shall investigate the amount of examination fees received by persons conducting special medical examinations to determine permanent disabilities, including total compensation received for examinations of department and self-insured claimants, and establish compensation guidelines and compensation reporting criteria.

(3) The department shall investigate the level of compliance of self-insurers with the requirement of full reporting of claims information to the department, particularly with respect to medical examinations, and develop effective enforcement procedures or recommendations for legislation if needed.

NEW SECTION, Sec. 3. The department shall examine the credentials of persons conducting special medical examinations and shall monitor the quality and objectivity of examinations and reports for the department and self-insured claimants. The department shall adopt rules to ensure that examinations are performed only by qualified persons meeting department standards.

NEW SECTION, Sec. 4. The department shall report periodically, no less than annually, to the committee on economic development and labor of the senate and the committee on commerce and labor of the house of representatives, or the appropriate successor committees, on the program established to fulfill the requirements of sections 2 and 3 of this act.

NEW SECTION, Sec. 5. The department shall study the role of the attending physician in assuring an injured worker's return to work at the earliest time consistent with good medical care, and the effect of changing the attending physician when return to work does not occur expeditiously. The department shall report the results of its study to the appropriate committees of the legislature no later than December 1, 1988.

NEW SECTION, Sec. 6. The sum of one hundred thousand dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated from the medical aid fund to the department of labor and industries for the biennium ending June 30, 1989, to carry out the purposes of this act.

NEW SECTION, Sec. 7. Sections 1 through 4 of this act are each added to chapter 51.32 RCW.

NEW SECTION, Sec. 8. This act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, the support of the state

government and its existing public institutions, and shall take effect immediately.

Passed the House March 7, 1988.

Passed the Senate March 4, 1988.

Approved by the Governor March 18, 1988.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 18, 1988.

CHAPTER 115

[Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill No. 5036]

SURPLUS SALMON EGGS

AN ACT Relating to surplus salmon eggs; and amending RCW 75.08.245.

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

Sec. 1. Section 4, chapter 35, Laws of 1971 as last amended by section 25, chapter 46, Laws of 1983 1st ex. sess. and RCW 75.08.245 are each amended to read as follows:

The department may supply, at a reasonable charge, surplus salmon eggs to a person for use in the cultivation of salmon. The department shall not intentionally create a surplus of salmon to provide eggs for sale. The department shall only sell salmon eggs from stocks that are not suitable for salmon population rehabilitation or enhancement in state waters in Washington. All sales or transfers shall be consistent with the department's egg transfer and aquaculture disease control regulations as now existing or hereafter amended. Prior to department determination that eggs of a salmon stock are surplus and available for sale, the department shall assess the productivity of each watershed that is suitable for receiving eggs.

The salmon enhancement advisory council, created in RCW 75.48.120, shall consider egg sales at each meeting.

Passed the Senate March 7, 1988.

Passed the House March 3, 1988.

Approved by the Governor March 18, 1988.

Filed in Office of Secretary of State March 18, 1988.

CHAPTER 116

[House Bill No. 1558]

TEACHERS' RETIREMENT OPTIONS

AN ACT Relating to actuarially equivalent options for public retirement allowances; amending RCW 41.32.498; and providing an effective date.

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