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1996 Regular Session
6lr1866

By: Delegate Love

Introduced and read first time: February 12, 1996

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 Exercise Physiologists - Certification

- 3 FOR the purpose of creating the Exercise Physiologist Advisory Committee as a subunit
- 4 of the State Board of Physician Quality Assurance; requiring a person to have a
- 5 certificate in order to provide services as an exercise physiologist; specifying the
- 6 qualifications for obtaining a certificate and for membership to the Committee;
- 7 authorizing the State Board of Physician Quality Assurance to take certain
- 8 disciplinary actions; providing certain requirements for renewal of certification;
- 9 providing for the termination of this Act under the Maryland ProgramEvaluation
- 10 Act; providing for an evaluation by a certain date; defining certainterms; and
- 11 generally relating to the certification of exercise physiologists and the creation of
- the Exercise Physiologist Advisory Committee.

13 BY adding to

- 14 Article Health Occupations
- 15 Section 6A-101 through 6A-502, inclusive, to be under the new title "Title 6A.
- 16 Exercise Physiologists"
- 17 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 18 (1994 Replacement Volume and 1995 Supplement)

19 BY adding to

- 20 Article State Government
- 21 Section 8-403(1)
- 22 Annotated Code of Maryland
- 23 (1995 Replacement Volume)

24 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF

25 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

1	Article - Health Occupations
2	TITLE 6A. EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGISTS.
3	SUBTITLE 1. DEFINITIONS.
4	6A-101.
5	(A) IN THIS TITLE THE FOLLOWING WORDS HAVE THE MEANINGS INDICATED.
6 7	(B) "BOARD" MEANS THE STATE BOARD OF PHYSICIAN QUALITY ASSURANCE ESTABLISHED UNDER § 14-201 OF THIS ARTICLE.
8 9	(C) "CERTIFICATE" MEANS A CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY THE BOARD TO AN EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST UNDER THIS TITLE.
10 11	(D) "COMMITTEE" MEANS THE EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
	(E) "EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO, UNDER THE DIRECTION, APPROVAL, AND SUPERVISION OF A PHYSICIAN LICENSED UNDER TITLE 14 OF THIS ARTICLE:
17 18	(1) CONDUCTS EXERCISE TESTING, EVALUATION, AND ASSESSMENT, INCLUDING NONINVASIVE CARDIOPULMONARY EXERCISE TESTING, MUSCULOSKELETAL STRENGTH AND RANGE OF MOTION TESTING, NUTRITION AND BODY COMPOSITION ASSESSMENT, AND NEUROMUSCULAR EVALUATIONS;
20 21	(2) GIVES EXERCISE PRESCRIPTIONS BASED ON EVALUATION AND CLINICAL PRESENTATION;
24 25	(3) PROVIDES DIRECT SUPERVISION OF EXERCISE PROGRAMS, INCLUDING CARDIOVASCULAR ENDURANCE EXERCISE TRAINING, PROGRESSIVE RESISTANCE EXERCISE ACTIVITIES, RANGE OF MOTION ACTIVITIES, VOCATIONAL OR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES, AND OTHER ACTIVITIES PARTICULARLY WITH INDIVIDUALS WITH DISEASES OR PHYSICAL IMPAIRMENTS;

- 27 (4) PROVIDES PATIENT EDUCATION AND COUNSELING TO FACILITATE
- 28 INCREASED HABITUAL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY AND ADOPTION OF OTHER HEALTHY
- 29 BEHAVIORS THAT REDUCE THE RISK FOR DEVELOPMENT OR RECURRENCE OF
- 30 CHRONIC DISEASE OR MUSCULOSKELETAL INJURY; AND
- 31 (5) ASSESSES OUTCOMES OF CLINICAL PROGRAMS IN ORDER TO
- 32 IDENTIFY THE MOST EFFICACIOUS, SAFE, AND COST EFFECTIVE PROGRAMS.
- 33 SUBTITLE 2. EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST ADVISORY COMMITTEE.
- 34 6A-201.
- 35 (A) THERE IS AN EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST ADVISORY COMMITTEE WITHIN 36 THE BOARD.

1	(B) THE COMMITTEE SHALL FUNCTION AS A SUBUNIT OF THE BOARD.
2	6A-202.
3	(A) THE COMMITTEE SHALL CONSIST OF SEVEN MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE BOARD.
5	(B) OF THE SEVEN COMMITTEE MEMBERS:
6	(1) THREE SHALL BE LICENSED PHYSICIANS;
7	(2) THREE SHALL BE CERTIFIED EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGISTS; AND
8	(3) ONE SHALL BE A CONSUMER MEMBER.
9 10	(C) OF THE LICENSED PHYSICIAN MEMBERS AT LEAST ONE SHALL SPECIALIZE IN SPORTS MEDICINE.
11	(D) THE CONSUMER MEMBER:
12	(1) SHALL BE A MEMBER OF THE GENERAL PUBLIC;
	(2) MAY NOT BE A PHYSICIAN, FORMER PHYSICIAN, EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST, OR A PERSON TRAINING TO BECOME A PHYSICIAN OR EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST;
16 17	(3) MAY NOT HAVE HAD WITHIN 2 YEARS BEFORE APPOINTMENT A SUBSTANTIAL FINANCIAL INTEREST IN A PROCESS REGULATED BY THE BOARD; AND
	(4) MAY NOT HAVE A HOUSEHOLD MEMBER WHO IS A PHYSICIAN OR EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST OR A PERSON TRAINING TO BECOME A PHYSICIAN OR EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST.
21	6A-203.
22	(A) THE BOARD SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS GOVERNING:
23	(1) THE TERM OF OFFICE FOR COMMITTEE MEMBERS;
24	(2) THE PROCEDURE FOR FILLING VACANCIES ON THE COMMITTEE;
25 26	$\hbox{(3) THE APPOINTMENT OF A CHAIRPERSON AND OTHER OFFICERS FOR } \\$ THE COMMITTEE;
27	(4) THE REMOVAL OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS; AND
28	(5) THE DUTIES OF EACH OFFICER.
31 32	(B) IN ADDITION TO THE REGULATIONS ON REMOVAL OF MEMBERS ADOPTED BY THE BOARD, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECRETARY, THE GOVERNOR MAY REMOVE A MEMBER WHOM THE SECRETARY FINDS TO HAVE BEEN ABSENT FROM TWO SUCCESSIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS WITHOUT ADEQUATE REASON.

- 28 6A-206.
- 29 (A) THE BOARD SHALL SET REASONABLE FEES FOR:
- 30 (1) THE ISSUANCE AND RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATES; AND
- 31 (2) THE OTHER SERVICES RENDERED BY THE BOARD IN CONNECTION 32 WITH EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGISTS.
- 33 (B) THE BOARD SHALL PAY ALL FUNDS COLLECTED UNDER THIS TITLE TO 34 THE COMPTROLLER OF THE STATE.
- 35 (C) THE COMPTROLLER SHALL DISTRIBUTE:

5	
1 2	(1) 20 PERCENT OF THE FEES RECEIVED FROM THE BOARD TO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE STATE; AND
3	(2) THE BALANCE OF THE FEES TO THE STATE BOARD OF PHYSICIAN QUALITY ASSURANCE FUND, ESTABLISHED UNDER § 14-207 OF THIS ARTICLE.
5	SUBTITLE 3. CERTIFICATION.
6	6A-301.
7 8	(A) AN INDIVIDUAL SHALL BE CERTIFIED BY THE BOARD BEFORE THE INDIVIDUAL MAY PRACTICE AS AN EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST.
	(B) NOTHING IN THIS TITLE MAY BE CONSTRUED TO AUTHORIZE AN EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST TO PRACTICE INDEPENDENT OF A SUPERVISING PHYSICIAN.
12	6A-302.
13 14	(A) TO QUALIFY FOR A CERTIFICATE, AN APPLICANT SHALL MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.
15	(B) THE APPLICANT SHALL BE OF GOOD MORAL CHARACTER.
16	(C) THE APPLICANT SHALL BE AT LEAST 18 YEARS OLD.
17 18	(D) THE APPLICANT SHALL HAVE A MASTER OF EDUCATION DEGREE IN AN EXERCISE STUDIES CURRICULUM FROM AN ACCREDITED SCHOOL.
19 20	(E) THE APPLICANT SHALL HAVE COMPLETED AT LEAST 300 HOURS OF AN INTERNSHIP IN EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGY.
23	(F) THE APPLICANT SHALL HAVE PASSED AN EXAMINATION BY THE AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SPORTS MEDICINE FOR EXERCISE SPECIALISTS OR ANOTHER NATIONAL ORGANIZATION'S EXAM APPROVED BY THE BOARD FOR THAT PURPOSE.
25	6A-303.
26	AN APPLICANT FOR A CERTIFICATE SHALL:
27 28	(1) SUBMIT AN APPLICATION TO THE BOARD ON THE FORM THAT THE BOARD REQUIRES; AND
29	(2) PAY TO THE BOARD THE APPLICATION FEE SET BY THE BOARD.
30	6A-304.
31 32	(A) IF AN APPLICANT QUALIFIES FOR A CERTIFICATE UNDER THIS SUBTITLE, THE BOARD SHALL SEND THE APPLICANT A NOTICE THAT SPECIFIES THAT:
33	(1) THE APPLICANT HAS QUALIFIED FOR A CERTIFICATE; AND
34	(2) ON RECEIPT OF THE CERTIFICATE FEE SET BY THE BOARD, THE

35 BOARD SHALL ISSUE A CERTIFICATE TO THE APPLICANT.

	(B) ON PAYMENT OF THE CERTIFICATE FEE, THE BOARD SHALL ISSUE A CERTIFICATE TO ANY APPLICANT WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SUBTITLE.
4 5	(C) THE BOARD SHALL INCLUDE ON EACH CERTIFICATE THAT THE BOARD ISSUES:
6	(1) THE FULL NAME OF THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER;
7 8	(2) A SERIAL NUMBER ASSIGNED BY THE BOARD TO THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER; AND
9	(3) THE SIGNATURE OF THE SECRETARY UNDER SEAL OF THE BOARD.
10	6A-305.
11 12	A CERTIFICATE AUTHORIZES THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER TO PRACTICE AS AN EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST WHILE THE CERTIFICATE IS EFFECTIVE.
13	6A-306.
	(A) (1) UNLESS A CERTIFICATE IS RENEWED FOR AN ADDITIONAL TERM AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, THE CERTIFICATE EXPIRES ON THE DATE SET BY THE BOARD.
17 18	(2) A CERTIFICATE MAY NOT BE RENEWED FOR A TERM LONGER THAN 2 YEARS.
	(B) AT LEAST 1 MONTH BEFORE A CERTIFICATE EXPIRES, THE BOARD SHALL SEND TO THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER, BY FIRST-CLASS MAIL TO THE LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER, A RENEWAL NOTICE THAT STATES:
22	(1) THE DATE ON WHICH THE CURRENT CERTIFICATE EXPIRES;
	(2) THE DATE BY WHICH THE BOARD MUST RECEIVE THE RENEWAL APPLICATION FOR THE RENEWAL TO BE ISSUED AND MAILED BEFORE THE CERTIFICATE EXPIRES; AND
26	(3) THE AMOUNT OF THE RENEWAL FEE.
	(C) BEFORE A CERTIFICATE EXPIRES, THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER PERIODICALLY MAY RENEW IT FOR AN ADDITIONAL 2-YEAR TERM, IF THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER:
30	(1) IS OTHERWISE ENTITLED TO BE ISSUED A CERTIFICATE;
31	(2) PAYS TO THE BOARD THE RENEWAL FEE, SET BY THE BOARD; AND
32	(3) SUBMITS TO THE BOARD:
33 34	(I) A RENEWAL APPLICATION ON THE FORM THAT THE BOARD REQUIRES: AND

	(II) SATISFACTORY EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATE RENEWAL SET BY THE BOARD UNDER THIS SECTION.
6	(D) IN ADDITION TO ANY OTHER QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE BOARD, THE BOARD SHALL ESTABLISH CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS AS A CONDITION FOR THE RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATES UNDER THIS SECTION.
8 9	(E) THE BOARD SHALL RENEW THE CERTIFICATE OF EACH CERTIFICATE HOLDER WHO MEETS THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.
10	6A-307.
	THE BOARD, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS REGULATIONS, SHALL REINSTATE THE CERTIFICATE OF AN EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST WHO HAS FAILED TO RENEW THE CERTIFICATE FOR ANY REASON IF THE EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST:
14 15	(1) MEETS THE RENEWAL REQUIREMENTS OF \S 6A-306 OF THIS SUBTITLE;
16 17	(2) PAYS TO THE BOARD THE REINSTATEMENT FEE SET BY THE BOARD; AND
	(3) SUBMITS TO THE BOARD SATISFACTORY EVIDENCE OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE FOR CERTIFICATE REINSTATEMENTS.
21	6A-308.
	(A) EACH CERTIFICATE HOLDER SHALL PRODUCE A VALID CERTIFICATE WHEN REQUESTED TO DO SO BY AN EXISTING OR POTENTIAL EMPLOYER OR CLIENT.
25 26	(B) EACH CERTIFICATE HOLDER SHALL GIVE THE BOARD WRITTEN NOTICE OF ANY CHANGE OF ADDRESS.
27	6A-309.
	SUBJECT TO THE HEARING PROVISIONS OF § 6A-311 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE BOARD, ON THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF ITS MEMBERS THEN SERVING, MAY DENY A CERTIFICATE TO ANY APPLICANT FOR:
31	(1) FAILURE TO MEET THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION; OR
32 33	(2) ANY OF THE REASONS THAT ARE GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION UNDER $\$$ 6A-310 OF THIS SUBTITLE.
34	6A-310.

36 BOARD, ON THE AFFIRMATIVE VOTE OF A MAJORITY OF ITS MEMBERS THEN $37\,$ SERVING, MAY REPRIMAND ANY CERTIFICATE HOLDER OR SUSPEND OR REVOKE A

SUBJECT TO THE HEARING PROVISIONS OF \S 6A-311 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE

38 CERTIFICATE IF THE CERTIFICATE HOLDER:

,	
	(1) FRAUDULENTLY OR DECEPTIVELY OBTAINS OR ATTEMPTS TO OBTAIN A CERTIFICATE FOR THE APPLICANT OR CERTIFICATE HOLDER OR FOR ANOTHER INDIVIDUAL;
4	(2) FRAUDULENTLY OR DECEPTIVELY USES A CERTIFICATE;
7	(3) VIOLATES ANY PROVISION OF THIS TITLE OR ANY REGULATIONS ADOPTED UNDER THIS TITLE OR COMMITS ANY ACT WHICH COULD SERVE AS THE BASIS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION AGAINST A PHYSICIAN UNDER § 14-404 OF THIS ARTICLE; OR
9	(4) PROVIDES SERVICES WITHOUT THE SUPERVISION OF A PHYSICIAN.
10	6A-311.
13 14	(A) (1) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED UNDER § 10-226 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE, BEFORE THE BOARD TAKES ANY ACTION UNDER §§ 6A-309 AND 6A-310 OF THIS SUBTITLE, THE BOARD SHALL GIVE THE INDIVIDUAL AGAINST WHOM THE ACTION IS CONTEMPLATED AN OPPORTUNITY FOR A HEARING BEFORE A HEARING OFFICER.
	(2) THE HEARING OFFICER SHALL GIVE NOTICE AND HOLD THE HEARING IN ACCORDANCE WITH TITLE 10, SUBTITLE 2 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.
19 20	(3) THE BOARD MAY ADMINISTER OATHS IN CONNECTION WITH ANY PROCEEDING UNDER THIS SECTION.
	(4) AT LEAST 14 DAYS BEFORE THE HEARING, THE HEARING NOTICE REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBTITLE SHALL BE SENT BY CERTIFIED MAIL TO THE LAST KNOWN ADDRESS OF THE INDIVIDUAL.
	(B) (1) ANY CERTIFICATE HOLDER WHO IS AGGRIEVED BY A FINAL DECISION OF THE BOARD UNDER THIS SUBTITLE MAY NOT APPEAL TO THE BOARD OF REVIEW BUT MAY TAKE A DIRECT JUDICIAL APPEAL.
27 28	(2) THE APPEAL SHALL BE AS PROVIDED FOR JUDICIAL REVIEW OF THE FINAL DECISION IN TITLE 10, SUBTITLE 2 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.
29 30	(C) AN ORDER OF THE BOARD UNDER THIS SUBTITLE MAY NOT BE STAYED PENDING REVIEW.
	(D) ALL OF THE FINDINGS AND ORDERS OF THE BOARD THAT RELATE TO EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGISTS ARE SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF TITLE 14, SUBTITLE 4 OF THIS ARTICLE.
34	SUBTITLE 4. PROHIBITED ACTS; PENALTIES.
35	6A-401.

36 (A) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS TITLE, A PERSON MAY NOT 37 PRACTICE, ATTEMPT TO PRACTICE, OR OFFER TO PRACTICE AS AN EXERCISE

- $1\,$ PHYSIOLOGIST IN THE STATE UNLESS THE PERSON HAS A CERTIFICATE ISSUED BY $2\,$ THE BOARD.
- 3 (B) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN THIS TITLE, A PERSON MAY NOT
- 4 PERFORM, ATTEMPT TO PERFORM, OR OFFER TO PERFORM ANY DELEGATED
- 5 MEDICAL ACT BEYOND THE SCOPE OF THE CERTIFICATE.
- 6 6A-402.
- 7 (A) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED UNDER THIS TITLE. A PERSON MAY
- 8 NOT REPRESENT OR IMPLY TO THE PUBLIC BY USE OF THE TITLE "CERTIFIED
- 9 EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST", BY OTHER TITLE, BY DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES,
- 10 METHODS, OR PROCEDURES THAT THE PERSON IS CERTIFIED TO PRACTICE AS AN
- 11 EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST IN THE STATE.
- 12 (B) UNLESS CERTIFIED TO PRACTICE AS AN EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST UNDER
- 13 THIS TITLE, A PERSON MAY NOT USE THE WORDS OR TERMS "EXERCISE
- 14 PHYSIOLOGIST", "CERTIFIED EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST", OR "E.P.".
- 15 6A-403.
- A PERSON WHO VIOLATES § 6A-401 OR § 6A-402 OF THIS SUBTITLE:
- 17 (1) IS GUILTY OF A MISDEMEANOR AND ON CONVICTION IS SUBJECT TO
- 18 A FINE NOT EXCEEDING \$5,000 OR IMPRISONMENT NOT EXCEEDING 5 YEARS OR
- 19 BOTH: AND
- 20 (2) SHALL LOSE CERTIFICATION AS AN EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST
- 21 UNDER THIS TITLE.
- 22 SUBTITLE 5. SHORT TITLE; TERMINATION OF TITLE.
- 23 6A-501.
- 24 THIS TITLE MAY BE CITED AS THE "MARYLAND EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGISTS
- 25 ACT".
- 26 6A-502.
- 27 SUBJECT TO THE EVALUATION AND REESTABLISHMENT PROVISIONS OF THE
- 28 MARYLAND PROGRAM EVALUATION ACT, THIS TITLE AND ALL REGULATIONS
- 29 ADOPTED UNDER THIS TITLE SHALL TERMINATE AND BE OF NO EFFECT AFTER
- 30 OCTOBER 1, 2006.
- 31 Article State Government
- 32 8-403.
- 33 (L) EXCEPT AS OTHERWISE PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (E) OF THIS SECTION,
- 34 ON OR BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2005, AN EVALUATION SHALL BE MADE OF THE STATE
- 35 EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST ADVISORY COMMITTEE ESTABLISHED UNDER THE
- 36 HEALTH OCCUPATIONS ARTICLE AND THE REGULATIONS THAT RELATE TO THE
- 37 EXERCISE PHYSIOLOGIST ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

- 1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
- 2 October 1, 1996.