



**House
Legislative
Analysis
Section**

Olds Plaza Building, 10th Floor
Lansing, Michigan 48909
Phone: 517/373-6466

DEFINE RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS

House Bill 6098

Sponsor: Rep. Gerald Law

Committee: Health Policy

Complete to 11-20-96

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 6098 AS INTRODUCED 9-18-96

The bill would amend the Revised Statutes of 1846 to define a respiratory therapist as a health professional who practices respiratory care and who meets the following criteria:

- Successfully completes an accredited respiratory therapist training program.
- Has at least a two-year associate's degree from an accredited college or university.
- Successfully completes the registered respiratory therapist examination administered by the national board for respiratory care.

In addition, the bill would specify that the legislature finds that respiratory therapists are health professionals responsible for providing patient care services to individuals with disorders and diseases of the cardiopulmonary system, including but not limited to, life support and cardiopulmonary resuscitation; that respiratory therapists are both recognized by and subject to the Michigan Do-Not-Resuscitate Procedures Act (MCL 333.1051 to 333.1067); and that the duties of patient assessment and withholding medical treatment as required by the preceding act require a great deal of training, experience, and competence.

Further, the bill would specify that the intent of the legislature regarding the bill was to provide minimum standards that would serve as guidelines for the respiratory therapist profession.

MCL 8.3 and 8.3x

Analyst: S. Stutzky

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