

SENATE BILL NO. 457

April 24, 1997, Introduced by Senators BYRUM and SCHWARZ
and referred to the Committee on Health Policy and
Senior Citizens.

A bill to amend 1846 RS 1, entitled
"Of the statutes,"
by amending section 3 (MCL 8.3) and by adding section 3x.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF MICHIGAN ENACT:

1 Sec. 3. In the construction of the statutes of this state,
2 the rules OF CONSTRUCTION stated in ~~sections 3a to 3w~~ THIS ACT
3 shall be observed, unless ~~such~~ construction UNDER THIS ACT
4 would be inconsistent with the manifest intent of the
5 legislature.

6 SEC. 3X. (1) THE TERM "RESPIRATORY THERAPIST" MEANS A
7 HEALTH PROFESSIONAL WHO PRACTICES RESPIRATORY CARE AND WHO MEETS
8 ALL OF THE FOLLOWING REQUIREMENTS:

9 (A) HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED AN ACCREDITED RESPIRATORY
10 THERAPIST TRAINING PROGRAM.

1 (B) HAS BEEN AWARDED AT LEAST A 2-YEAR ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE
2 FROM AN ACCREDITED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

3 (C) HAS SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED THE REGISTERED RESPIRATORY
4 THERAPIST EXAMINATION ADMINISTERED BY THE NATIONAL BOARD FOR RES-
5 PIRATORY CARE.

6 (2) THE LEGISLATURE FINDS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING:

7 (A) THAT RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS ARE HEALTH PROFESSIONALS WHO
8 ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING PATIENT CARE SERVICES TO INDIVIDU-
9 ALS WITH DISORDERS AND DISEASES OF THE CARDIOPULMONARY SYSTEM,
10 INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, LIFE SUPPORT AND CARDIOPULMONARY
11 RESUSCITATION.

12 (B) RESPIRATORY THERAPISTS HAVE BEEN RECOGNIZED BY, AND ARE
13 SUBJECT TO, THE MICHIGAN DO-NOT-RESUSCITATE PROCEDURES ACT, 1996
14 PA 193, MCL 333.1051 TO 333.1067.

15 (C) THAT THE DUTIES OF PATIENT ASSESSMENT AND WITHHOLDING
16 MEDICAL TREATMENT IMPOSED UNDER THE MICHIGAN DO-NOT-RESUSCITATE
17 PROCEDURES ACT, 1996 PA 193, MCL 333.1051 TO 333.1067, REQUIRE
18 SUBSTANTIAL TRAINING, EXPERIENCE, AND COMPETENCE.

19 (3) BASED ON THE FINDINGS STATED IN SUBSECTION (2), IT IS
20 THE INTENT OF THE LEGISLATURE IN ENACTING THE AMENDATORY ACT THAT
21 ADDED THIS SECTION TO PROVIDE MINIMUM STANDARDS TO SERVE AS
22 GUIDELINES FOR THE HEALTH PROFESSION OF RESPIRATORY THERAPY.