

2013 -- S 0276

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STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2013

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A N A C T

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES

Introduced By: Senators Miller, Sosnowski, Jabour, Goldin, and Cool Rumsey

Date Introduced: February 12, 2013

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 23-13-9 of the General Laws in Chapter 23-13 entitled "Maternal
2 and Child Health Services for Children with Special Health Care Needs" is hereby amended to
3 read as follows:
4 **23-13-9. Licensing and regulation of midwives -- Penalty for violations. --** The state
5 director of health is authorized and directed to make rules for the regulation of the practice of
6 midwifery and for the licensing of midwives, including regulations which require the payment of
7 an initial application fee equal to that fee which is imposed upon applicants for licensure as nurse
8 practitioners and a renewal fee also equivalent to that for nurse practitioners. The rules regarding
9 the regulation of the practice of midwifery shall authorize a licensed ~~nurse~~-midwife [certified by](#)
10 [the american midwifery certification board](#) to prescribe medications that might be reasonably
11 required by his or her patients; provided however, that ~~a nurse- the~~ midwife shall prescribe any of
12 those medications as authorized by ~~a list prepared by~~ the director of health. The provisions of this
13 section relating to prescription by ~~nurse~~-midwives shall be overseen by the department of health.
14 No person not a licensed midwife or a physician, registered under the provisions of chapter 37 of
15 title 5, shall practice midwifery or shall make a practice of attending women in childbirth for hire,
16 or use the name or title of midwife. Any person who violates the provisions of this section or who
17 violates any of the rules of the department of health made in pursuance of this section shall be
18 fined not more than one hundred dollars (\$100), or imprisoned not more than six (6) months, or
19 both, and the director of health may revoke the license issued to any person when, in the opinion

1 of the director of health, that person is guilty of unprofessional conduct.

2 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon passage.

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EXPLANATION
BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL
OF

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1 This act would authorize only midwives certified by the American Midwifery
2 Certification Board to prescribe medications authorized by the department of health to his or her
3 patient. Nurse-midwives would no longer be authorized under this statute.

4 This act would take effect upon passage.

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