

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 27, 2011

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 7, 2011

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 23, 2011

SENATE BILL

No. 380

Introduced by Senator Wright

February 15, 2011

An act to ~~add Section 2190.7 to amend Section 2190 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to medicine.~~

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 380, as amended, Wright. ~~Continuing education: nutrition course: medical education.~~

Existing law, the Medical Practice Act, provides for the licensure and regulation of physicians and surgeons by the Medical Board of California. Under that act, the board is required to adopt and administer standards for the continuing education of physicians and surgeons. Existing law requires physicians and surgeons to complete a mandatory continuing education course in the subjects of pain management and the treatment of terminally ill and dying patients, except that it does not apply to physicians and surgeons practicing in pathology or radiology specialty areas.

~~This bill would require specified physicians and surgeons to complete, by December 31, 2016, or as otherwise specified, a mandatory continuing education course in the subject of nutrition and lifestyle behavior for the prevention and treatment of chronic diseases, except that it would not apply to physicians and surgeons practicing in pathology or radiology specialty areas or who do not reside in California~~

authorize the board to also set content standards for an educational activity concerning chronic disease, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

3 (a) In 2008, U.S. health care spending was about \$7,681 per
4 resident and accounted for 16.2 percent of the nation’s gross
5 domestic product; this is among the highest of all industrialized
6 countries. Expenditures in the United States on health care
7 surpassed \$2.3 trillion in 2008, more than three times the \$714
8 billion spent in 1990, and over eight times the \$253 billion spent
9 in 1980.

10 (b) It is estimated that health care costs for chronic disease
11 treatment account for over 75 percent of national health
12 expenditures.

13 (c) Seven out of 10 deaths among Americans each year are from
14 chronic diseases. Heart disease, cancer, and stroke account for
15 more than 50 percent of all deaths each year.

16 (d) The last major report from the World Health Organization
17 in March 2003 concluded diet was a major factor in the cause of
18 chronic diseases.

19 (e) Dramatic increases in chronic diseases have been seen in
20 Asian countries since the end of WWII with the increase in the
21 gross national product and change to the western diet.

22 (f) Only 19 percent of students believed that they had been
23 extensively trained in nutrition counseling. Fewer than 50 percent
24 of primary care physicians include nutrition or dietary counseling
25 in their patient visits.

26 (g) Practicing physicians continually rate their nutrition
27 knowledge and skills as inadequate. More than one-half of
28 graduating medical students report that the time dedicated to
29 nutrition instruction is inadequate.

30 ~~SEC. 2. Section 2190.7 is added to the Business and Professions~~
31 ~~Code, to read:~~

32 ~~2190.7. (a) All practicing primary care physicians and all other~~
33 ~~physicians and surgeons who provide care or consultation for~~

1 chronic diseases shall complete a mandatory continuing education
2 course in the subject of nutrition and lifestyle behavior for the
3 prevention and treatment of chronic diseases. For the purposes of
4 this section, this course shall be a one-time requirement of seven
5 credit hours within the required minimum established by regulation,
6 to be completed by December 31, 2016.

7 (b) ~~All physicians and surgeons subject to subdivision (a) who~~
8 ~~are licensed on and after January 1, 2012, shall complete this~~
9 ~~requirement within four years of their initial license or by their~~
10 ~~second renewal date, whichever occurs first. The board may verify~~
11 ~~completion of this requirement on the renewal application form.~~

12 (e) ~~This section shall not apply to physicians and surgeons~~
13 ~~practicing in pathology or radiology specialty areas or who do not~~
14 ~~reside in the State of California.~~

15 *SEC. 2. Section 2190 of the Business and Professions Code is*
16 *amended to read:*

17 2190. In order to ~~insure~~ *ensure* the continuing competence of
18 licensed physicians and surgeons the ~~Division of Licensing board~~
19 shall adopt and administer standards for the continuing education
20 of ~~such~~ *those* licensees. *The board may also set content standards*
21 *for any educational activity concerning a chronic disease that*
22 *includes appropriate information on the impact, prevention, and*
23 *cure of the chronic disease by the application of changes in*
24 *nutrition and lifestyle behavior. The ~~division~~ board shall require*
25 each licensed physician and surgeon to demonstrate satisfaction
26 of the continuing education requirements at intervals of not less
27 than four nor more than six years.

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