

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the regulation of laser hair removal facilities;  
3 providing penalties.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Chapter 401, Health and Safety Code, is amended  
6 by adding Subchapter M to read as follows:

7 SUBCHAPTER M. LASER HAIR REMOVAL

8 Sec. 401.501. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

9 (1) "Department" means the Department of State Health  
10 Services.

11 (2) "Executive commissioner" means the executive  
12 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission.

13 (3) "Laser hair removal" means the use of a laser or  
14 pulsed light device for nonablative hair removal procedures.

15 (4) "Laser hair removal facility" means a business  
16 location that provides laser hair removal.

17 (5) "Laser or pulsed light device" means a device  
18 approved by the department and the United States Food and Drug  
19 Administration for laser hair removal.

20 (6) "Nonablative hair removal procedure" means a hair  
21 removal procedure using a laser or pulsed light device that does not  
22 remove the epidermis.

23 (7) "Operator" means the owner of a laser hair removal  
24 facility, an agent of an owner, or an independent contractor of a

1 laser hair removal facility.

2 Sec. 401.502. EXAMINATION. The executive commissioner may  
3 adopt rules to govern the development and administration of an  
4 examination for an applicant under this subchapter.

5 Sec. 401.503. APPLICATION PROCESS. (a) An application for  
6 a certificate or license under this subchapter must be made on a  
7 form prescribed and provided by the department.

8 (b) The application must require an applicant to provide  
9 sworn statements relating to the applicant's education and to  
10 provide other information required by the department.

11 Sec. 401.504. CERTIFICATE FOR INDIVIDUALS REQUIRED. (a) A  
12 person may not perform or attempt to perform laser hair removal  
13 unless the person holds the appropriate certificate under this  
14 subchapter.

15 (b) A certificate issued under this subchapter only  
16 authorizes a person to perform nonablative cosmetic laser hair  
17 removal. The certificate does not authorize the person to  
18 diagnose, treat, or offer to treat any client for any illness,  
19 disease, injury, defect, or deformity of the human body. The  
20 certificate holder shall specifically disclose this limitation in  
21 writing to all clients and prospective clients.

22 (c) This subchapter does not require a health professional  
23 licensed under another law to hold a certificate under this  
24 subchapter to perform laser hair removal if the performance of  
25 laser hair removal is within the scope of that professional's  
26 practice as determined by the professional's licensing board.

27 (d) This subchapter does not apply to a physician or to a

1 physician's employee or delegate acting under Chapter 157,  
2 Occupations Code.

3 Sec. 401.505. CERTIFIED LASER HAIR REMOVAL PROFESSIONAL.

4 (a) An applicant for a laser hair removal professional certificate  
5 must:

6 (1) be certified by a recognized certifying agency,  
7 including the Society for Clinical and Medical Hair Removal or  
8 another certification entity approved by the department;

9 (2) meet the requirements for a senior laser hair  
10 removal technician certificate under Section 401.506; and

11 (3) pass an examination administered by the  
12 department.

13 (b) A certified laser hair removal professional acting  
14 under the protocol established with a consulting physician may  
15 perform laser hair removal without supervision.

16 Sec. 401.506. SENIOR LASER HAIR REMOVAL TECHNICIAN. (a)

17 Except as provided by Subsection (b), an applicant for a senior  
18 laser hair removal technician certificate must:

19 (1) meet the requirements for a laser hair removal  
20 technician certificate under Section 401.507; and

21 (2) have supervised at least 100 laser hair removal  
22 procedures, as audited by a certified laser hair removal  
23 professional.

24 (b) The qualifications for eligibility for an applicant for  
25 a senior laser hair removal technician certificate who is a  
26 licensed health professional shall be established by the entity  
27 that issues licenses for that health profession.

1       Sec. 401.507. LASER HAIR REMOVAL TECHNICIAN. An applicant  
2 for a laser hair removal technician certificate must:

3           (1) meet the requirements for a laser hair removal  
4 apprentice-in-training certificate under Section 401.508; and

5           (2) have performed at least 100 laser hair removal  
6 procedures under the direct supervision of a senior laser hair  
7 removal technician or a certified laser hair removal professional.

8       Sec. 401.508. LASER HAIR REMOVAL APPRENTICE-IN-TRAINING.

9       (a) An applicant for a laser hair removal apprentice-in-training  
10 certificate must have at least 24 hours of training in safety, laser  
11 physics, skin typing, skin reactions, treatment protocols, burns,  
12 eye protection, emergencies, and posttreatment protocols.

13       (b) A laser hair removal apprentice-in-training must work  
14 directly under the supervision of a senior laser hair removal  
15 technician or a certified laser hair removal professional.

16       (c) A person must be at least 18 years of age to qualify to  
17 be a laser hair removal apprentice-in-training.

18       Sec. 401.509. CONTINUING EDUCATION. The department shall  
19 recognize, prepare, or administer continuing education programs  
20 for certificate holders. A certificate holder must participate in  
21 the programs to the extent required by department rule to renew the  
22 person's certificate.

23       Sec. 401.510. FACILITY LICENSE REQUIRED. (a) A person may  
24 not operate a laser hair removal facility unless the person holds a  
25 license issued under this subchapter to operate the facility.

26       (b) A separate license is required for each laser hair  
27 removal facility.

1        (c) This section does not apply to:

2            (1) a facility owned or operated by a physician for the  
3 practice of medicine;

4            (2) a licensed hospital; or

5            (3) a clinic owned or operated by a licensed hospital.

6        Sec. 401.511. EXPIRATION OF CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE. The  
7 executive commissioner by rule may adopt a system under which  
8 certificates and licenses expire on various dates during the year.

9        Sec. 401.512. RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATE OR LICENSE. (a) A  
10 certificate or license expires on the second anniversary of the  
11 date of issuance.

12        (b) A person must renew the person's certificate or license  
13 on or before the expiration date.

14        (c) The department shall issue a renewal certificate or  
15 license on receipt of a renewal application in the form prescribed  
16 by the department, accompanied by a renewal fee in an amount equal  
17 to the original certificate or license fee.

18        Sec. 401.513. DISPLAY OF LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE. A person  
19 holding a license or certificate under this subchapter shall  
20 display the person's license or certificate in an open public area  
21 of the laser hair removal facility.

22        Sec. 401.514. LASER OR PULSED LIGHT DEVICE. (a) A laser or  
23 pulsed light device used for laser hair removal in a laser hair  
24 removal facility must comply with all applicable federal and state  
25 laws and regulations.

26        (b) A person who adulterates or misbrands a laser or pulsed  
27 light device violates Chapter 431. The department may investigate

1 a person accused of adulterating or misbranding a laser or pulsed  
2 light device.

3 (c) A person may only use a laser or pulsed light device  
4 approved for laser hair removal by the federal Food and Drug  
5 Administration for that purpose and may only use the device at the  
6 settings expected to safely remove hair.

7 Sec. 401.515. CUSTOMER NOTICE; LIABILITY. (a) A laser hair  
8 removal facility shall give each customer a written statement  
9 outlining the relevant risks associated with laser hair removal,  
10 including a warning that failure to use the eye protection provided  
11 to the customer by the laser hair removal facility may result in  
12 damage to the eyes.

13 (b) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules relating  
14 to the customer notice.

15 (c) Compliance with the notice requirement does not affect  
16 the liability of the laser hair removal facility operator or a  
17 manufacturer of a laser or pulsed light device.

18 Sec. 401.516. WARNING SIGNS. (a) A laser hair removal  
19 facility shall post a warning sign as prescribed by the department  
20 in a conspicuous location readily visible to a person entering the  
21 facility. The sign must provide a toll-free telephone number for  
22 the department and inform the customer that the customer may call  
23 the department.

24 (b) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules specifying  
25 the size, content, and design of the sign, with wording listing the  
26 potential dangers involved.

27 (c) The department shall include with a license application

1 and an application for renewal of a license a description of the  
2 design standards required for a sign under this section.

3 Sec. 401.517. OPERATIONAL REQUIREMENTS. (a) Except as  
4 provided by Subsection (b), a laser hair removal facility shall  
5 have a certified laser hair removal professional or a licensed  
6 health professional described by Section 401.504(c) present to  
7 supervise the laser hair removal procedures performed at the  
8 facility during the facility's operating hours.

9 (b) A laser hair removal facility may continue to perform  
10 laser hair removal procedures after the facility's certified laser  
11 hair removal professional leaves the facility if a senior laser  
12 hair removal technician is present to perform or supervise each  
13 procedure. Not later than the 45th day after the date the  
14 facility's certified laser hair removal professional leaves the  
15 facility:

16 (1) the facility's senior laser hair removal  
17 technician must become certified as a laser hair removal  
18 professional under Section 401.505; or

19 (2) the facility must hire a new certified laser hair  
20 removal professional.

21 Sec. 401.518. SAFETY. (a) A laser hair removal facility  
22 operator is responsible for maintaining the laser hair removal  
23 facility's compliance with the requirements of this subchapter and  
24 department rules relating to laser and pulsed light devices.

25 (b) A laser hair removal facility operator may not claim,  
26 advertise, or distribute promotional materials that claim that  
27 laser hair removal is free from risk or provides any medical

1 benefit.

2 (c) A laser hair removal facility operator may not produce  
3 false or misleading advertising regarding the services offered at  
4 the facility.

5 Sec. 401.519. CONSULTING PHYSICIAN. (a) A laser hair  
6 removal facility must have a written contract with a consulting  
7 physician to:

8 (1) establish proper protocols for the services  
9 provided at the facility; and

10 (2) audit the laser hair removal facility's protocols  
11 and operations.

12 (b) Under the rules of the department, a laser hair removal  
13 facility must document with the department the facility's  
14 contractual relationship with the consulting physician.

15 (c) The consulting physician must be available for  
16 emergency consultation with the facility as appropriate to the  
17 circumstances, including, if the physician considers it necessary,  
18 an emergency appointment with the client. If the consulting  
19 physician is unavailable for an emergency consultation, another  
20 designated physician must be available for the consultation with  
21 the facility relating to care for the client.

22 (d) This subchapter does not relieve a consulting physician  
23 or another health care professional from complying with applicable  
24 regulations prescribed by a state or federal agency.

25 Sec. 401.520. DISCLOSURE OF RECORD PROHIBITED; EXCEPTION.

26 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), an operator or other  
27 person may not disclose a customer record required to be kept by the

1 department.

2 (b) An operator or other person may disclose a customer  
3 record if:

4 (1) the customer or a person authorized to act on  
5 behalf of the customer requests the record;

6 (2) the department, the Texas Medical Board, a health  
7 authority, or an authorized agent requests the record;

8 (3) the customer consents in writing to disclosure of  
9 the record to another person;

10 (4) the customer is a victim, witness, or defendant in  
11 a criminal proceeding and the record is relevant to that  
12 proceeding;

13 (5) the record is requested in a criminal or civil  
14 proceeding by court order or subpoena; or

15 (6) disclosure is otherwise required by law.

16 Sec. 401.521. PROHIBITED PRACTICE. (a) A person may not  
17 operate a laser or pulsed light device with the intent to treat an  
18 illness, disease, injury, or physical defect or deformity unless  
19 the person is:

20 (1) a physician;

21 (2) acting under a physician's order; or

22 (3) authorized under other law to treat the illness,  
23 disease, injury, or physical defect or deformity in that manner.

24 (b) A person who violates Subsection (a) is practicing  
25 medicine in violation of Subtitle B, Title 3, Occupations Code, and  
26 is subject to the penalties under that subtitle and under Section  
27 401.522.

1       Sec. 401.522. ENFORCEMENT; PENALTIES. (a) The department  
2 may impose an administrative penalty on a person who violates this  
3 subchapter or a rule adopted under this subchapter. The amount of  
4 the penalty may not exceed \$5,000 for each violation.

5       (b) The department may suspend or revoke a license or  
6 certificate issued under this subchapter in addition to or instead  
7 of imposing a penalty under Subsection (a).

8       (c) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules as  
9 necessary to implement this section.

10       SECTION 2. Section 483.041(c), Health and Safety Code, is  
11 amended to read as follows:

12       (c) Subsection (a) does not apply to the possession of a  
13 dangerous drug in the usual course of business or practice or in the  
14 performance of official duties by the following persons or an agent  
15 or employee of the person:

16           (1) a pharmacy licensed by the board;

17           (2) a practitioner;

18           (3) a person who obtains a dangerous drug for lawful  
19 research, teaching, or testing, but not for resale;

20           (4) a hospital that obtains a dangerous drug for  
21 lawful administration by a practitioner;

22           (5) an officer or employee of the federal, state, or  
23 local government;

24           (6) a manufacturer or wholesaler licensed by the  
25 Department of State Health Services under Chapter 431 (Texas Food,  
26 Drug, and Cosmetic Act);

27           (7) a carrier or warehouseman;

1 (8) a home and community support services agency  
2 licensed under and acting in accordance with Chapter 142;

3 (9) a licensed midwife who obtains oxygen for  
4 administration to a mother or newborn or who obtains a dangerous  
5 drug for the administration of prophylaxis to a newborn for the  
6 prevention of ophthalmia neonatorum in accordance with Section  
7 203.353, Occupations Code; ~~[or]~~

8 (10) a salvage broker or salvage operator licensed  
9 under Chapter 432; or

10 (11) a certified laser hair removal professional under  
11 Subchapter M, Chapter 401, who possesses and uses a laser or pulsed  
12 light device approved by and registered with the department and in  
13 compliance with department rules for the sole purpose of cosmetic  
14 nonablative hair removal.

15 SECTION 3. (a) Not later than September 1, 2010, a laser  
16 hair removal facility in operation on the effective date of this Act  
17 must obtain licenses and certificates required by Subchapter M,  
18 Chapter 401, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

19 (b) Not later than March 1, 2010, the executive commissioner  
20 of the Health and Human Services Commission shall adopt rules as  
21 required by Subchapter M, Chapter 401, Health and Safety Code, as  
22 added by this Act.

23 SECTION 4. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b) of this  
24 section, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

25 (b) Sections 401.504, 401.510, 401.517, 401.521, and  
26 401.522, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act, and Section  
27 483.041(c), Health and Safety Code, as amended by this Act, take

H.B. No. 449

1 effect September 1, 2010.

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 449 was passed by the House on April 24, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 138, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 449 on May 23, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 145, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 449 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 21, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor