



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Connecticut CS Technician Certification Bill Signed into Law

Chicago, Ill. - June 1, 2015 - On May 26, 2015, Connecticut Gov. Dannel Malloy signed into law Central Service technician certification bill, Public Act 15-11, making Connecticut the third state in the nation, behind New Jersey and New York, to require certification of Central Service technicians. The Connecticut law takes effect January 1, 2016.

“We began the legislative process in Connecticut three years ago,” said IAHCSMM Government Affairs Director Josephine Colacci, JD. “After the hard work of many Connecticut IAHCSMM members, we now celebrate the third state to require certification for Central Service technicians. These technicians are finally receiving the recognition they deserve for a job that is extremely complex and critical for patient safety.”

The Connecticut bill will require new Central Service technicians hired January 1, 2016, and on to be certified within two years of their date of hire. Individuals working as CS technicians prior to January 1, 2016, will be grandfathered in and will not have to be certified. All CS technicians, grandfathered and newly hired after January 1, 2016, will be required to complete 10 continuing education credits annually.*

IAHCSMM has long been an outspoken advocate of state-required certification of CS technicians. Improperly cleaned and sterilized medical and surgical instruments can introduce bacteria into a patient and increase the risk for infection. Certification of CS technicians helps promote professionalism and drive positive patient outcomes. What's more, the legislative success in Connecticut will help build momentum for future legislative initiatives in other states, reasoned IAHCSMM President David Jagrosse, CRCST.

“CS professionals have a direct impact on the quality of care delivered within the hospital, and this latest legislative win in Connecticut will help set the stage for many more states to require certification of their CS technicians,” noted Jagrosse, who works as a hospital CS manager in Connecticut. “It's our goal to achieve legislative success in all 50 states.”

Although Colacci spearheads IAHCSMM's legislative efforts, she attributes the success to IAHCSMM and its Board of Directors, which provide crucial support and resources, and also credits state lobbyists and a lengthy list of dedicated CS professionals and IAHCSMM members who have spent countless hours alongside her at the state capitol to lobby legislators and testify before legislative committees.

“We wouldn't have been able to get this legislation passed without the support of our members,” Colacci said. “Because I cannot live in every state, our members are critical to our success. This is definitely a team effort, and I'm grateful for everyone's role in this latest victory.”

**The International Association of Healthcare Central Service Materiel Management (IAHCSMM) provides the information in this press release for informational purposes only and does not offer legal advice. IAHCSMM recommends that individuals or healthcare facilities consult with their attorneys for answers to legal questions.*

About IAHCSMM

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