

March 19, 2001

S 498. CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL MIDWIVES. TO AUTHORIZE THE PRACTICE OF MIDWIFERY BY CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL MIDWIVES. Enacts new Art. 10B of GS Ch. 90 as title indicates. Defines midwifery as provision of prenatal, intrapartum, and postpartum care for women experiencing normal pregnancies and newborn care for their infants in out-of-hospital settings. Defines certified professional midwife as a person who is certified by the North American Registry of Midwives (NARM). Establishes seven-member NC Supervisory Council of Certified Professional Midwives. Specifies Council's composition, manner of appointment, qualifications and terms. Effective Jan. 1, 2002, prohibits practice of midwifery by persons other than licensed midwives, physicians practicing medicine, or other designated persons without Council approval. Establishes minimum qualifications for approval of midwives by Council (including NARM certification), application fees, and authority to suspend or revoke approval. Establishes limits on ability of midwives to withdraw from providing care during prenatal period or after onset of labor.

Intro. by Lucas.

Ref. to Health Care	GS 90
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