

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2025

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1718

By: Representative Gramlich

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS FOR SURGICAL SMOKE
EVACUATION IN HEALTHCARE FACILITIES LICENSED IN THIS
STATE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO ESTABLISH STANDARDS FOR SURGICAL
SMOKE EVACUATION IN HEALTHCARE
FACILITIES LICENSED IN THIS STATE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 9, Subchapter 2, is amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

20-9-225. Standards for surgical smoke evacuation – Definitions.

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "Energy-generating device" means a tool that performs a surgical function using heat, laser, electricity, or other form of energy;

(2)(A) "Smoke evacuation system" means a smoke evacuator, laser plume evacuator, or local exhaust ventilator that effectively captures and neutralizes surgical smoke at the site of origin and before the surgical smoke can make ocular contact or contact with the respiratory tract of occupants of the room.

(B) "Smoke evacuation system" is not required to be interconnected to a surgical ventilation system or medical gas system; and

(3) "Surgical smoke" means the gaseous by-product produced by energy-generating devices, including surgical plume, smoke plume, bio-aerosols, laser-generated airborne contaminants, or lung-damaging dust.



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(b) Any healthcare facility licensed by the Department of Health that uses energy-generating devices shall use a smoke evacuation system during any surgical procedure involving an energy-generating device that is likely to produce surgical smoke.

(c) The State Board of Health and the department may take any action under § 20-9-215 necessary for a violation of this section.