10A NCAC 13S .0101 is proposed for adoption as follows:

| 3 | SUBCHAPTER 13S - LICENSURE OF SUITABLE FACILITIES FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF | |
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| 4 | | SURGICAL ABORTIONS |
| 5 | | |
| 6 | | SECTION .0100 – LICENSURE PROCEDURE |
| 7 | | |
| 8 | <u>10A NCAC 138</u> | S.0101 DEFINITIONS |
| 9 | The following d | efinitions will apply throughout this Subchapter: |
| 10 | <u>(1)</u> | "Abortion" means the termination of a pregnancy as defined in G.S 90-21.81(1c). |
| 11 | <u>(2)</u> | "Clinic" means a freestanding facility neither physically attached nor operated by a licensed hospital |
| 12 | | for the performance of abortions completed during the first 12 weeks of pregnancy. |
| 13 | (3) | "Division" means the Division of Health Service Regulation of the North Carolina Department of |
| 14 | | Health and Human Services. |
| 15 | <u>(4)</u> | "Gestational age" means the length of pregnancy as indicated by the date of the first day of the last |
| 16 | | normal monthly menstrual period, if known, or as determined by ultrasound. |
| 17 | (5) | "Governing authority" means the individual, agency, group, or corporation appointed, elected or |
| 18 | | otherwise designated, in which the ultimate responsibility and authority for the conduct of the |
| 19 | | abortion clinic is vested pursuant to Rule .0318 of this Subchapter. |
| 20 | (6) | "Health Screening" means an evaluation of an employee or contractual employee, including |
| 21 | | tuberculosis testing, to identify any underlying conditions that may affect the person's ability to |
| 22 | | work in the clinic. |
| 23 | (7) | "New clinic" means one that is not certified as an abortion clinic by the Division as of July 1, 2023, |
| 24 | | and has not been certified or licensed within the previous six months of the application for licensure. |
| 25 | (8) | "Registered Nurse" means a person who holds a valid license issued by the North Carolina Board |
| 26 | | of Nursing to practice professional nursing in accordance with the Nursing Practice Act, G.S. 90, |
| 27 | | Article 9A. |
| 28 | | |
| 29 | History Note: | Authority G.S. 131E-153; 131E-153.5; 143B-165. |
| 30 | | Codifier determined that findings of need did not meet criteria for emergency rule on October 30, |
| 31 | | <u>2023;</u> |
| 32 | | Emergency Rule Eff. November 14, 2023; |
| 33 | | Temporary Adoption Eff. February 8, 2024; |
| 34 | | Adopted Eff. October 1, 2024. |