

By: Representative Hobgood-Wilkes

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 796

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 73-15-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 INCLUDE ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES IN THE STATEMENT OF  
3 PURPOSE OF THE MISSISSIPPI NURSING PRACTICE LAW; TO AMEND SECTION  
4 73-15-5, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO DELETE CERTAIN DEFINITIONS  
5 AND REVISE CERTAIN DEFINITIONS IN THE NURSING PRACTICE LAW  
6 REGARDING ADVANCED NURSING PRACTICE; TO AMEND SECTION 73-15-9,  
7 MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO REVISE THE COMPOSITION OF THE  
8 MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF NURSING TO INCLUDE A CERTIFIED REGISTERED  
9 NURSE ANESTHETIST AS A MEMBER IN PLACE OF A LICENSED PHYSICIAN AND  
10 ADD ANOTHER REGISTERED NURSE IN CLINICAL PRACTICE; TO DELETE THE  
11 PROVISIONS FOR SUBMITTING NOMINATIONS FOR BOARD MEMBERS TO THE  
12 GOVERNOR; TO AMEND SECTION 73-15-20, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
13 REVISE CERTAIN PROVISIONS RELATING TO THE PRACTICE OF ADVANCED  
14 PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES; TO PROVIDE THAT AN ADVANCED PRACTICE  
15 REGISTERED NURSE SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM THE REQUIREMENT OF ENTERING  
16 AND MAINTAINING A COLLABORATIVE/CONSULTATIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH A  
17 LICENSED PHYSICIAN OR DENTIST AFTER COMPLETING 6,240 TRANSITION TO  
18 PRACTICE HOURS; TO PROVIDE THAT CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE  
19 ANESTHETISTS SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM MAINTAINING A  
20 COLLABORATIVE/CONSULTATIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH A LICENSED PHYSICIAN  
21 OR DENTIST UPON COMPLETION OF 8,000 CLINICAL PRACTICE HOURS; TO  
22 PROVIDE THAT ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES AND CERTIFIED  
23 REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHETISTS MAY APPLY HOURS WORKED BEFORE JULY  
24 1, 2023, TO FULFILL THEIR RESPECTIVE HOUR REQUIREMENT; TO CONFORM  
25 CERTAIN PROVISIONS WITH THE MISSISSIPPI MEDICAL CANNABIS ACT; TO  
26 AMEND SECTION 73-15-29, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO INCLUDE  
27 ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES IN THE PROVISIONS RELATING TO  
28 GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTIONS AGAINST NURSES; AND FOR RELATED  
29 PURPOSES.

30 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:



31           **SECTION 1.** Section 73-15-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
32 amended as follows:

33           73-15-3. In order to safeguard life and health, any person  
34 practicing or offering to practice as a registered nurse, an  
35 advanced practice registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse  
36 in Mississippi for compensation shall hereafter be required to  
37 submit evidence of qualifications to practice and shall be  
38 licensed or hold the privilege to practice as hereinafter  
39 provided. It shall be unlawful for any person not licensed or  
40 holding the privilege to practice under the provisions of this  
41 article:

42                   (a) To practice or offer to practice as a registered  
43 nurse, an advanced practice registered nurse or a licensed  
44 practical nurse;

45                   (b) To use a sign, card or device to indicate that such  
46 person is a registered nurse, an advanced practice registered  
47 nurse or a licensed practical nurse.

48           Any person offering to practice nursing in Mississippi must  
49 be licensed or otherwise authorized to practice as provided in  
50 this article.

51           **SECTION 2.** Section 73-15-5, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
52 amended as follows:

53           73-15-5. (1) "Board" means the Mississippi Board of  
54 Nursing.



55           (2) The "practice of nursing" by a registered nurse means  
56 the performance for compensation of services which requires  
57 substantial knowledge of the biological, physical, behavioral,  
58 psychological and sociological sciences and of nursing theory as  
59 the basis for assessment, diagnosis, planning, intervention and  
60 evaluation in the promotion and maintenance of health; management  
61 of individuals' responses to illness, injury or infirmity; the  
62 restoration of optimum function; or the achievement of a dignified  
63 death. "Nursing practice" includes, but is not limited to,  
64 administration, teaching, counseling, delegation and supervision  
65 of nursing, and execution of the medical regimen, including the  
66 administration of medications and treatments prescribed by any  
67 licensed or legally authorized physician or dentist. The  
68 foregoing shall not be deemed to include acts of medical diagnosis  
69 or prescriptions of medical, therapeutic or corrective measures,  
70 except as may be set forth by rules and regulations promulgated  
71 and implemented by the Mississippi Board of Nursing.

72       \* \* \*

73           ( \* \* \*3) "Advanced nursing practice" means, in addition to  
74 the practice of professional nursing, the performance of  
75 advanced-level nursing approved by the board which, by virtue of  
76 graduate education and experience are appropriately performed by  
77 an advanced practice registered nurse. The advanced practice  
78 registered nurse may diagnose, treat and manage medical  
79 conditions. This may include prescriptive authority as identified



80 by the board. Except as otherwise authorized in Section  
81 73-15-20(3), advanced practice registered nurses must practice in  
82 a collaborative/consultative relationship with a physician or  
83 dentist with an unrestricted license to practice in the State of  
84 Mississippi and advanced nursing must be performed within the  
85 framework of a standing protocol or practice guidelines, as  
86 appropriate.

87 ( \* \* \*4) The "practice of nursing" by a licensed practical  
88 nurse means the performance for compensation of services requiring  
89 basic knowledge of the biological, physical, behavioral,  
90 psychological and sociological sciences and of nursing procedures  
91 which do not require the substantial skill, judgment and knowledge  
92 required of a registered nurse. These services are performed  
93 under the direction of a registered nurse or a licensed physician  
94 or licensed dentist and utilize standardized procedures in the  
95 observation and care of the ill, injured and infirm; in the  
96 maintenance of health; in action to safeguard life and health; and  
97 in the administration of medications and treatments prescribed by  
98 any licensed physician or licensed dentist authorized by state law  
99 to prescribe. On a selected basis, and within safe limits, the  
100 role of the licensed practical nurse shall be expanded by the  
101 board under its rule-making authority to more complex procedures  
102 and settings commensurate with additional preparation and  
103 experience.



104 ( \* \* \*5) A "license" means an authorization to practice  
105 nursing as a registered nurse, an advanced practice registered  
106 nurse or a licensed practical nurse designated herein.

107 ( \* \* \*6) A "registered nurse" is a person who is licensed  
108 or holds the privilege to practice under the provisions of this  
109 article and who practices nursing as defined herein. "RN" is the  
110 abbreviation for the title of Registered Nurse.

111 ( \* \* \*7) A "licensed practical nurse" is a person who is  
112 licensed or holds the privilege to practice under this article and  
113 who practices practical nursing as defined herein. "LPN" is the  
114 abbreviation for the title of Licensed Practical Nurse.

115 ( \* \* \*8) A "registered nurse in clinical practice" is one  
116 who functions in any health care delivery system which provides  
117 nursing services.

118 \* \* \*

119 (9) "Collaboration" or "collaborate" means the act of  
120 communicating pertinent information or consulting with a licensed  
121 physician or other licensed health care provider with each  
122 provider contributing the provider's respective expertise to  
123 optimize the overall care delivered to the patient.

124 ( \* \* \*10) An "advanced practice registered nurse" is a  
125 person who is licensed or holds the privilege to practice under  
126 this article as a professional nurse and who is \* \* \* licensed as  
127 an advanced practice registered nurse or specialized nursing  
128 practice and includes certified registered nurse midwives,



129 certified registered nurse anesthetists \* \* \*, certified nurse  
130 practitioners and clinical nurse specialists. As used in this  
131 subsection (10):

132 (a) "Certified registered nurse midwife" means a  
133 registered nurse who holds certification as a certified registered  
134 nurse midwife by a nationally recognized certifying body approved  
135 by the board and is licensed by the board to engage in advanced  
136 practice nursing in this state. "CNM" is the abbreviation for the  
137 title of Certified Nurse Midwife \* \* \*.

138 (b) "Certified registered nurse anesthetist" means a  
139 registered nurse who holds certification as a certified registered  
140 nurse anesthetist by a nationally recognized certifying body  
141 approved by the board and is licensed by the board to engage in  
142 advanced practice nursing in this state. "CRNA" is the  
143 abbreviation for the title of Certified Registered Nurse  
144 Anesthetist.

145 (c) "Certified nurse practitioner" means a registered  
146 nurse who holds certification as a certified nurse practitioner by  
147 a nationally recognized certifying body approved by the board and  
148 is licensed by the board to engage in advanced practice nursing in  
149 this state. "CNP" is the abbreviation for the title of Certified  
150 Nurse Practitioner.

151 (d) "Clinical nurse specialist" means a registered  
152 nurse who holds certification as a clinical nurse specialist by a  
153 nationally recognized certifying body approved by the board and is



154 licensed by the board to engage in advanced practice nursing in  
155 this state. "CNS" is the abbreviation for the title of Clinical  
156 Nurse Specialist.

157 ( \* \* \*11) A "nurse educator" is a registered nurse who  
158 meets the criteria for faculty as set forth in a state-accredited  
159 program of nursing for registered nurses, or a state-approved  
160 program of nursing for licensed practical nurses, and who  
161 functions as a faculty member.

162 ( \* \* \*12) A "consumer representative" is a person  
163 representing the interests of the general public, who may use  
164 services of a health agency or health professional organization or  
165 its members but who is neither a provider of health services, nor  
166 employed in the health services field, nor holds a vested interest  
167 in the provision of health services at any level, nor has an  
168 immediate family member who holds vested interests in the  
169 provision of health services at any level.

170 ( \* \* \*13) "Privilege to practice" means the multistate  
171 licensure privilege to practice nursing in the state as described  
172 in the Nurse Licensure Compact provided for in Section 73-15-201.

173 ( \* \* \*14) "Licensee" is a person who has been issued a  
174 license to practice nursing or advanced practice nursing in the  
175 state or who holds the privilege to practice nursing in the state.

176 (15) "Clinical practice hours" include, but are not limited  
177 to, all critical care nursing experience, residency-style training  
178 hours and hands-on simulation training.



179           **SECTION 3.** Section 73-15-9, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
180 amended as follows:

181           73-15-9. (1) There is \* \* \* created a board to be known as  
182 the Mississippi Board of Nursing, composed of \* \* \* fourteen (14)  
183 members, two (2) of whom shall be nurse educators; \* \* \* four (4)  
184 of whom shall be registered nurses in clinical practice, \* \* \*  
185 three (3) to have as basic nursing preparation an associate degree  
186 or diploma and one (1) to have as basic nursing preparation a  
187 baccalaureate degree; one (1) of whom shall be a registered nurse  
188 at large; one (1) of whom shall be a registered nurse  
189 practitioner; four (4) of whom shall be licensed practical nurses;  
190 one (1) of whom shall be a \* \* \* certified nurse anesthetist; and  
191 one (1) of whom shall represent consumers of health services.  
192 There shall be at least one (1) board member from each  
193 congressional district in the state; \* \* \* however, \* \* \* the  
194 consumer representative member and one (1) registered nurse member  
195 shall be at large always.

196           (2) Members of the Mississippi Board of Nursing \* \* \* shall  
197 be appointed by the Governor \* \* \*. Appointments made to fill  
198 vacancies for unexpired terms shall be for the duration of such  
199 terms and until a successor is duly appointed.

200           (3) Members of the board shall be appointed in staggered  
201 terms for four (4) years or until a successor shall be duly  
202 qualified. No member may serve more than two (2) consecutive full





203 terms. Members of the board serving on July 1, \* \* \* 2023, shall  
204 continue to serve for their appointed terms.

205 (4) Vacancies occurring by reason of resignation, death or  
206 otherwise shall be filled by appointment of the Governor \* \* \*.

207 (5) Any member may be removed from the board by the Governor  
208 after a hearing by the board and provided such removal is  
209 recommended by the executive committee of the affected group.

210 **SECTION 4.** Section 73-15-20, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
211 amended as follows:

212 73-15-20. (1) **Advanced practice registered nurses.** Any  
213 nurse desiring to be \* \* \* licensed as an advanced practice  
214 registered nurse shall apply to the board and submit proof that he  
215 or she holds a current license \* \* \* as a registered nurse and  
216 that he or she meets one or more of the following requirements:

217 (a) Satisfactory completion of a formal post-basic  
218 educational program of at least one (1) academic year, the primary  
219 purpose of which is to prepare nurses for advanced or specialized  
220 practice.

221 (b) Certification by a board-approved certifying body.  
222 Such certification shall be required for initial state \* \* \*  
223 licensure and any \* \* \* license renewal as a \* \* \* certified nurse  
224 anesthetist, certified nurse practitioner or certified nurse  
225 midwife. The board may by rule provide for provisional or  
226 temporary state \* \* \* licensure of graduate \* \* \* advanced  
227 practice registered nurses for a period of time determined to be



228 appropriate for preparing and passing the National Certification  
229 Examination. Those with provisional or temporary \* \* \* licenses  
230 must practice under the direct supervision of a licensed physician  
231 or \* \* \* an advanced practice registered nurse with at least five  
232 (5) years of experience.

233 (c) Graduation from a program leading to a master's or  
234 post-master's degree in a \* \* \* program of study preparing for one  
235 (1) of the described advanced practice registered nurse roles.

236 (2) **Rulemaking.** The board shall provide by rule the  
237 appropriate requirements for advanced practice registered nurses  
238 in the categories of certified registered nurse anesthetist,  
239 certified nurse midwife, clinical nurse specialist and \* \* \*  
240 certified nurse practitioner.

241 (3) **Collaboration.** Except as otherwise authorized in this  
242 subsection (3), an advanced practice registered nurse shall  
243 perform those functions authorized in this section within a  
244 collaborative/consultative relationship with a dentist or  
245 physician with an unrestricted license to practice dentistry or  
246 medicine in this state and within an established protocol or  
247 practice guidelines, as appropriate, that is filed with the board  
248 upon license application, license renewal, after entering into a  
249 new collaborative/consultative relationship or making changes to  
250 the protocol or practice guidelines or practice site. The board  
251 shall review and approve the protocol to ensure compliance with  
252 applicable regulatory standards. \* \* \* After an advanced practice



253 registered nurse has completed six thousand two hundred forty  
254 (6,240) transition-to-practice hours, the advanced practice  
255 registered nurse, except certified registered nurse anesthetists,  
256 shall be exempt from the requirement of entering and maintaining a  
257 collaborative/consultative relationship with a licensed physician  
258 or dentist as provided under this subsection (3). Certified  
259 registered nurse anesthetists shall be exempt from maintaining a  
260 collaborative/consultative relationship with a licensed physician  
261 or dentist as provided under this subsection (3) upon completion  
262 of eight thousand (8,000) clinical practice hours. Advanced  
263 practice registered nurses and certified registered nurse  
264 anesthetists may apply hours worked before July 1, 2023, to  
265 fulfill their respective hour requirements.

266 (4) **Renewal.** The board shall renew a license for an  
267 advanced practice registered nurse upon receipt of the renewal  
268 application, fees and any required protocol or practice  
269 guidelines. The board shall adopt rules establishing procedures  
270 for license renewals. The board shall by rule prescribe  
271 continuing education requirements for advanced practice registered  
272 nurses \* \* \* as a condition for renewal of \* \* \* licensure.

273 (5) **Reinstatement.** Advanced practice registered nurses may  
274 reinstate a lapsed privilege to practice upon submitting  
275 documentation of a current active license to practice professional  
276 nursing, a reinstatement application and fee, \* \* \* any required  
277 protocol or practice guidelines, documentation of current



278 certification as an advanced practice registered nurse in a  
279 designated area of practice by a national certification  
280 organization recognized by the board and documentation of at least  
281 forty (40) hours of continuing education related to the advanced  
282 clinical practice of the \* \* \* advanced practice registered nurse  
283 within the previous two-year period. The board shall adopt rules  
284 establishing the procedure for reinstatement.

285 (6) **Changes in status.** \* \* \* An advanced practice  
286 registered nurse who is required to have a  
287 collaborative/consultative relationship with a licensed physician  
288 or dentist shall notify the board immediately regarding changes in  
289 the collaborative/consultative relationship \* \* \*. If changes  
290 leave the advanced practice registered nurse without a  
291 board-approved collaborative/consultative relationship with a  
292 physician or dentist, the advanced practice registered nurse may  
293 not practice as an advanced practice registered nurse.

294 (7) **Practice requirements.** The advanced practice registered  
295 nurse shall practice as follows:

296 (a) According to standards and guidelines of their  
297 respective professional organization and the National  
298 Certification Organization.

299 (b) In a collaborative/consultative relationship with a  
300 licensed physician whose practice is compatible with that of the  
301 nurse practitioner, except as otherwise authorized in subsection  
302 (3) of this section. Certified registered nurse anesthetists may



303 collaborate/consult with licensed dentists. The advanced practice  
304 nurse must be able to communicate reliably with a  
305 collaborating/consulting physician or dentist while practicing.  
306 Advanced practice registered nurses who are not required to have a  
307 collaborative/consultative relationship with a licensed physician  
308 or dentist shall collaborate with other health care providers and  
309 refer or transfer patients as appropriate.

310 (c) According to a board-approved protocol or practice  
311 guidelines, except as otherwise authorized in subsection (3) of  
312 this section.

313 (d) Advanced practice registered nurses practicing as  
314 certified registered nurse anesthetists must practice according to  
315 board-approved practice guidelines that address pre-anesthesia  
316 preparation and evaluation; anesthesia induction, maintenance, and  
317 emergence; post-anesthesia care; peri-anesthetic and clinical  
318 support functions.

319 (e) Except as otherwise authorized in subsection (3) of  
320 this section, advanced practice registered nurses practicing in  
321 other specialty areas must practice according to a board-approved  
322 protocol that has been mutually agreed upon by the nurse  
323 practitioner and a Mississippi licensed physician or dentist whose  
324 practice or prescriptive authority is not limited as a result of  
325 voluntary surrender or legal/regulatory order.

326 (f) Each required collaborative/consultative  
327 relationship shall include and implement a formal quality



328 assurance/quality improvement program which shall be maintained on  
329 site and shall be available for inspection by representatives of  
330 the board. This quality assurance/quality improvement program  
331 must be sufficient to provide a valid evaluation of the practice  
332 and be a valid basis for change, if any.

333 (g) \* \* \* Advanced practice registered nurses may not  
334 write prescriptions for, dispense or order the use of or  
335 administration of any schedule of controlled substances except as  
336 contained in this chapter.

337 (8) **Prescribing controlled substances and medications.**

338 \* \* \* Advanced practice registered nurses may apply for  
339 controlled substance prescriptive authority after completing a  
340 board-approved educational program. \* \* \* Advanced practice  
341 registered nurses who have completed the program and received  
342 prescription authority from the board may prescribe Schedules  
343 II-V. The words "administer," "controlled substances" and  
344 "ultimate user," shall have the same meaning as set forth in  
345 Section 41-29-105, unless the context otherwise requires. The  
346 board shall promulgate rules governing prescribing of controlled  
347 substances, including distribution, record keeping, drug  
348 maintenance, labeling and distribution requirements and  
349 prescription guidelines for controlled substances and all  
350 medications. Prescribing any controlled substance in violation of  
351 the rules promulgated by the board shall constitute a violation of  
352 Section 73-15-29(1) (f), (k) and (l) and shall be grounds for



353 disciplinary action. The prescribing, administering or  
354 distributing of any legend drug or other medication in violation  
355 of the rules promulgated by the board shall constitute a violation  
356 of Section 73-15-29(1)(f), (k) and (l) and shall be grounds for  
357 disciplinary action. Certified nurse practitioners may issue  
358 written certifications for medical cannabis in accordance with the  
359 provisions of the Mississippi Medical Cannabis Act.

360 **SECTION 5.** Section 73-15-29, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
361 amended as follows:

362 73-15-29. (1) The board shall have power to revoke, suspend  
363 or refuse to renew any license issued by the board, or to revoke  
364 or suspend any privilege to practice, or to deny an application  
365 for a license, or to fine, place on probation and/or discipline a  
366 licensee, in any manner specified in this article, upon proof that  
367 such person:

368 (a) Has committed fraud or deceit in securing or  
369 attempting to secure such license;

370 (b) Has been convicted of a felony, or a crime  
371 involving moral turpitude or has had accepted by a court a plea of  
372 nolo contendere to a felony or a crime involving moral turpitude  
373 (a certified copy of the judgment of the court of competent  
374 jurisdiction of such conviction or pleas shall be prima facie  
375 evidence of such conviction);



376 (c) Has negligently or willfully acted in a manner  
377 inconsistent with the health or safety of the persons under the  
378 licensee's care;

379 (d) Has had a license or privilege to practice as a  
380 registered nurse, an advanced practice registered nurse or a  
381 licensed practical nurse suspended or revoked in any jurisdiction,  
382 has voluntarily surrendered such license or privilege to practice  
383 in any jurisdiction, has been placed on probation as a registered  
384 nurse, an advanced practice registered nurse or a licensed  
385 practical nurse in any jurisdiction or has been placed under a  
386 disciplinary order(s) in any manner as a registered nurse, an  
387 advanced practice registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse  
388 in any jurisdiction, (a certified copy of the order of suspension,  
389 revocation, probation or disciplinary action shall be prima facie  
390 evidence of such action);

391 (e) Has negligently or willfully practiced nursing in a  
392 manner that fails to meet generally accepted standards of such  
393 nursing practice;

394 (f) Has negligently or willfully violated any order,  
395 rule or regulation of the board pertaining to nursing practice or  
396 licensure;

397 (g) Has falsified or in a repeatedly negligent manner  
398 made incorrect entries or failed to make essential entries on  
399 records;





400 (h) Is addicted to or dependent on alcohol or other  
401 habit-forming drugs or is a habitual user of narcotics,  
402 barbiturates, amphetamines, hallucinogens, or other drugs having  
403 similar effect, or has misappropriated any medication;

404 (i) Has a physical, mental or emotional condition that  
405 renders the licensee unable to perform nursing services or duties  
406 with reasonable skill and safety;

407 (j) Has engaged in any other conduct, whether of the  
408 same or of a different character from that specified in this  
409 article, that would constitute a crime as defined in Title 97 of  
410 the Mississippi Code of 1972, as now or hereafter amended, and  
411 that relates to such person's employment as a registered nurse, an  
412 advanced practice registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse;

413 (k) Engages in conduct likely to deceive, defraud or  
414 harm the public;

415 (l) Engages in any unprofessional conduct as identified  
416 by the board in its rules;

417 (m) Has violated any provision of this article; or

418 (n) Violation(s) of the provisions of Sections 41-121-1  
419 through 41-121-9 relating to deceptive advertisement by health  
420 care practitioners. This paragraph shall stand repealed on July  
421 1, 2025.

422 (2) When the board finds any person unqualified because of  
423 any of the grounds set forth in subsection (1) of this section, it



424 may enter an order imposing one or more of the following  
425 penalties:

426 (a) Denying application for a license or other  
427 authorization to practice nursing, advanced practice nursing or  
428 practical nursing;

429 (b) Administering a reprimand;

430 (c) Suspending or restricting the license or other  
431 authorization to practice as a registered nurse, an advanced  
432 practice registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse for up to  
433 two (2) years without review;

434 (d) Revoking the license or other authorization to  
435 practice nursing, advanced practice nursing or practical nursing;

436 (e) Requiring the discipline to submit to care,  
437 counseling or treatment by persons and/or agencies approved or  
438 designated by the board as a condition for initial, continued or  
439 renewed licensure or other authorization to practice nursing,  
440 advanced practice nursing or practical nursing;

441 (f) Requiring the discipline to participate in a  
442 program of education prescribed by the board as a condition for  
443 initial, continued or renewed licensure or other authorization to  
444 practice;

445 (g) Requiring the discipline to practice under the  
446 supervision of a registered nurse or an advanced practice  
447 registered nurse for a specified period of time; or



448 (h) Imposing a fine not to exceed Five Hundred Dollars  
449 (\$500.00).

450 (3) In addition to the grounds specified in subsection (1)  
451 of this section, the board shall be authorized to suspend the  
452 license or privilege to practice of any licensee for being out of  
453 compliance with an order for support, as defined in Section  
454 93-11-153. The procedure for suspension of a license or privilege  
455 to practice for being out of compliance with an order for support,  
456 and the procedure for the reissuance or reinstatement of a license  
457 or privilege to practice suspended for that purpose, and the  
458 payment of any fees for the reissuance or reinstatement of a  
459 license or privilege to practice suspended for that purpose, shall  
460 be governed by Section 93-11-157 or 93-11-163, as the case may be.  
461 If there is any conflict between any provision of Section  
462 93-11-157 or 93-11-163 and any provision of this article, the  
463 provisions of Section 93-11-157 or 93-11-163, as the case may be,  
464 shall control.

465 (4) If the public health, safety or welfare imperatively  
466 requires emergency action and the board incorporates a finding to  
467 that effect in an order, the board may order summary suspension of  
468 a license pending proceedings for revocation or other action.  
469 These proceedings shall be promptly instituted and determined by  
470 the board.

471 (5) The board may establish by rule an alternative to  
472 discipline program for licensees who have an impairment as a



473 result of substance abuse or a mental health condition, which  
474 program shall include at least the following components:

475 (a) Participation in the program is voluntary with the  
476 licensee, and the licensee must enter the program before the board  
477 holds a disciplinary action hearing regarding the licensee;

478 (b) The full cost of participation in the program,  
479 including the cost of any care, counseling, treatment and/or  
480 education received by the licensee, shall be borne by the  
481 licensee;

482 (c) All of the procedures and records regarding the  
483 licensee's participation in the program shall be confidential,  
484 shall not be disclosed and shall be exempt from the provisions of  
485 the Mississippi Public Records Act of 1983; and

486 (d) A licensee may not participate in the program more  
487 often than one (1) time during any period of five (5) years or  
488 such longer period as set by the board.

489 (6) A nurse practitioner who provides a written  
490 certification as authorized under the Mississippi Medical Cannabis  
491 Act and in compliance with rules and regulations adopted  
492 thereunder shall not be subject to any disciplinary action under  
493 this section solely due to providing the written certification.

494 **SECTION 6.** This act shall take effect and be in force from  
495 and after July 1, 2023.

