

By: Representative Scoggins

To: Public Health and Human Services

HOUSE BILL NO. 813

1 AN ACT TO CREATE NEW SECTION 73-15-20.1, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF
2 1972, TO AUTHORIZE CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE PRACTITIONERS (CRNP)
3 TO PRACTICE TO THE FULL EXTENT OF THEIR EDUCATION AND TRAINING IF
4 THEY ARE ELIGIBLE TO PROVIDE SERVICES TO MEDICAID RECIPIENTS,
5 SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION; TO PROVIDE THAT A
6 CRNP SHALL BE ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR FULL PRACTICE AUTHORITY IF THE
7 CRNP HAS ACCUMULATED AT LEAST 10,000 HOURS OF DOCUMENTED CLINICAL
8 PRACTICE AS A CRNP AND THE CRNP HAS NOT COMPLETED MORE THAN 25% OF
9 THEIR CLINICAL HOURS THROUGH VIRTUAL OR TELEHEALTH MODALITIES; TO
10 PROVIDE THAT THE MISSISSIPPI BOARD OF NURSING SHALL DEVELOP A
11 RIGOROUS APPLICATION AND REVIEW PROCESS FOR CRNPs SEEKING FULL
12 PRACTICE AUTHORITY; TO PROVIDE THAT A CRNP GRANTED FULL PRACTICE
13 AUTHORITY UNDER THIS SECTION SHALL BE ENROLLED AS A MEDICAID
14 PROVIDER AND ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE DIRECT REIMBURSEMENT FOR COVERED
15 SERVICES PROVIDED TO MEDICAID RECIPIENTS; TO AMEND SECTIONS
16 73-15-5 AND 73-15-20, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO CONFORM TO THE
17 PRECEDING PROVISIONS; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

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

19 **SECTION 1.** The following shall be codified as Section
20 73-15-20.1, Mississippi Code of 1972:

21 73-15-20.1. (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law
22 to the contrary, a certified registered nurse practitioner (CRNP)
23 may practice to the full extent of their education and training if
24 they are eligible to provide services to Medicaid recipients,
25 subject to the requirements of this section.

(2) Eligibility Requirements. A CRNP shall be eligible to apply for full practice authority under this section if they meet all of the following criteria:

(a) The CRNP holds a current, active, and unrestricted license as a registered nurse and a CRNP in the State of Mississippi;

(b) The CRNP has accumulated at least ten thousand (10,000) hours of documented clinical practice as a CRNP;

(c) The CRNP has not completed more than twenty-five percent (25%) of their clinical hours through virtual or telehealth modalities; and

(d) The CRNP has submitted a complete application to the board for full practice authority, as prescribed by the board.

(3) Application and Review Process. (a) The board shall op a rigorous application and review process for CRNPs ng full practice authority under this section.

(b) The review process shall include, but not be limited to:

(i) A comprehensive review of the CRNP's patient outcomes, including relevant quality metrics and patient satisfaction data;

(ii) A thorough review of the CRNP's professional conduct, including any disciplinary actions, complaints, or malpractice claims; and



50 (iii) Peer review by other qualified health care
51 professionals, as determined by the board.

52 (c) The board shall have the authority to grant or deny
53 full practice authority based on the results of the review
54 process.

55 (4) Medicaid Enrollment. A CRNP granted full practice
56 authority under this section shall be enrolled as a Medicaid
57 provider and eligible to receive direct reimbursement for covered
58 services provided to Medicaid recipients.

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

68 73-15-5. (1) "Board" means the Mississippi Board of
69 Nursing.



75 evaluation in the promotion and maintenance of health; management
76 of individuals' responses to illness, injury or infirmity; the
77 restoration of optimum function; or the achievement of a dignified
78 death. "Nursing practice" includes, but is not limited to,
79 administration, teaching, counseling, delegation and supervision
80 of nursing, and execution of the medical regimen, including the
81 administration of medications and treatments prescribed by any
82 licensed or legally authorized physician or dentist. The
83 foregoing shall not be deemed to include acts of medical diagnosis
84 or prescriptions of medical, therapeutic or corrective measures,
85 except as may be set forth by rules and regulations promulgated
86 and implemented by the Mississippi Board of Nursing.

87 (3) "Clinical nurse specialist practice" by a certified
88 clinical nurse specialist means the delivery of advanced practice
89 nursing care to individuals or groups using advanced diagnostic
90 and assessment skills to manage and improve the health status of
91 individuals and families; diagnose human responses to actual or
92 potential health problems; plan for health promotion, disease
93 prevention, and therapeutic intervention in collaboration with the
94 patient or client; implement therapeutic interventions based on
95 the nurse specialist's area of expertise and within the scope of
96 advanced nursing practice, including, but not limited to, direct
97 patient care, counseling, teaching, collaboration with other
98 licensed health care providers; and, coordination of health care



99 as necessary and appropriate and evaluation of the effectiveness
100 of care.

101 (4) "Advanced nursing practice" means, in addition to the
102 practice of professional nursing, the performance of
103 advanced-level nursing approved by the board which, by virtue of
104 graduate education and experience are appropriately performed by
105 an advanced practice registered nurse. The advanced practice
106 registered nurse may diagnose, treat and manage medical
107 conditions. This may include prescriptive authority as identified
108 by the board. Except as otherwise authorized in Section
109 73-15-20.1, advanced practice registered nurses must practice in a
110 collaborative/consultative relationship with a physician or
111 dentist with an unrestricted license to practice in the State of
112 Mississippi and advanced nursing must be performed within the
113 framework of a standing protocol or practice guidelines, as
114 appropriate.

115 (5) The "practice of nursing" by a licensed practical nurse
116 means the performance for compensation of services requiring basic
117 knowledge of the biological, physical, behavioral, psychological
118 and sociological sciences and of nursing procedures which do not
119 require the substantial skill, judgment and knowledge required of
120 a registered nurse. These services are performed under the
121 direction of a registered nurse or a licensed physician or
122 licensed dentist and utilize standardized procedures in the
123 observation and care of the ill, injured and infirm; in the



124 maintenance of health; in action to safeguard life and health; and
125 in the administration of medications and treatments prescribed by
126 any licensed physician or licensed dentist authorized by state law
127 to prescribe. On a selected basis, and within safe limits, the
128 role of the licensed practical nurse shall be expanded by the
129 board under its rule-making authority to more complex procedures
130 and settings commensurate with additional preparation and
131 experience.

132 (6) A "license" means an authorization to practice nursing
133 as a registered nurse or a licensed practical nurse designated
134 herein.

135 (7) A "registered nurse" is a person who is licensed or
136 holds the privilege to practice under the provisions of this
137 article and who practices nursing as defined herein. "RN" is the
138 abbreviation for the title of Registered Nurse.

139 (8) A "licensed practical nurse" is a person who is licensed
140 or holds the privilege to practice under this article and who
141 practices practical nursing as defined herein. "LPN" is the
142 abbreviation for the title of Licensed Practical Nurse.

143 (9) A "registered nurse in clinical practice" is one who
144 functions in any health care delivery system which provides
145 nursing services.

146 (10) A "clinical nurse specialist" is a person who is
147 licensed or holds the privilege to practice under this article in
148 this state to practice professional nursing and who in this state



149 practices advanced nursing as defined herein. "CNS" is the
150 abbreviation for the title of Clinical Nurse Specialist.

151 (11) An "advanced practice registered nurse" is a person who
152 is licensed or holds the privilege to practice under this article
153 and who is certified in advanced practice registered nurse or
154 specialized nursing practice and includes certified registered
155 nurse midwives, certified registered nurse anesthetists and
156 certified nurse practitioners. "CNM" is the abbreviation for the
157 title of Certified Nurse Midwife. "CRNA" is the abbreviation for
158 the title of Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist. "CNP" is the
159 abbreviation for the title of Certified Nurse Practitioner.

160 (12) A "nurse educator" is a registered nurse who meets the
161 criteria for faculty as set forth in a state-accredited program of
162 nursing for registered nurses, or a state-approved program of
163 nursing for licensed practical nurses, and who functions as a
164 faculty member.

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

173 (14) "Privilege to practice" means the multistate licensure
174 privilege to practice nursing in the state as described in the
175 Nurse Licensure Compact provided for in Section 73-15-201.

176 (15) "Licensee" is a person who has been issued a license to
177 practice nursing in the state or who holds the privilege to
178 practice nursing in the state.

179 **SECTION 3.** Section 73-15-20, Mississippi Code of 1972, is
180 amended as follows:

181 73-15-20. (1) **Advanced practice registered nurses.** Any
182 nurse desiring to be certified as an advanced practice registered
183 nurse shall apply to the board and submit proof that he or she
184 holds a current license to practice professional nursing and that
185 he or she meets one or more of the following requirements:

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

190 (b) Certification by a board-approved certifying body.

191 Such certification shall be required for initial state
192 certification and any recertification as a registered nurse
193 anesthetist, nurse practitioner or nurse midwife. The board may
194 by rule provide for provisional or temporary state certification
195 of graduate nurse practitioners for a period of time determined to
196 be appropriate for preparing and passing the National
197 Certification Examination. Those with provisional or temporary



198 certifications must practice under the direct supervision of a
199 licensed physician or a certified nurse practitioner or certified
200 nurse midwife with at least five (5) years of experience.

201 (c) Graduation from a program leading to a master's or
202 post-master's degree in a nursing clinical specialty area with
203 preparation in specialized practitioner skills.

204 (2) **Rulemaking.** The board shall provide by rule the
205 appropriate requirements for advanced practice registered nurses
206 in the categories of certified registered nurse anesthetist,
207 certified nurse midwife and advanced practice registered nurse.

208 (3) **Collaboration.** Except as otherwise authorized in
209 Section 73-15-20.1, an advanced practice registered nurse shall
210 perform those functions authorized in this section within a
211 collaborative/consultative relationship with a dentist or
212 physician with an unrestricted license to practice dentistry or
213 medicine in this state and within an established protocol or
214 practice guidelines, as appropriate, that is filed with the board
215 upon license application, license renewal, after entering into a
216 new collaborative/consultative relationship or making changes to
217 the protocol or practice guidelines or practice site. The board
218 shall review and approve the protocol to ensure compliance with
219 applicable regulatory standards. Except as otherwise authorized
220 in Section 73-15-20.1, the advanced practice registered nurse may
221 not practice as an APRN if there is no collaborative/consultative



222 relationship with a physician or dentist and a board-approved
223 protocol or practice guidelines.

224 (4) **Renewal.** The board shall renew a license for an
225 advanced practice registered nurse upon receipt of the renewal
226 application, fees and any required protocol or practice
227 guidelines. The board shall adopt rules establishing procedures
228 for license renewals. The board shall by rule prescribe
229 continuing education requirements for advanced practice nurses not
230 to exceed forty (40) hours biennially as a condition for renewal
231 of a license or certificate.

232 (5) **Reinstatement.** Advanced practice registered nurses may
233 reinstate a lapsed privilege to practice upon submitting
234 documentation of a current active license to practice professional
235 nursing, a reinstatement application and fee, * * * any required
236 protocol or practice guidelines, documentation of current
237 certification as an advanced practice nurse in a designated area
238 of practice by a national certification organization recognized by
239 the board and documentation of at least forty (40) hours of
240 continuing education related to the advanced clinical practice of
241 the nurse practitioner within the previous two-year period. The
242 board shall adopt rules establishing the procedure for
243 reinstatement.

244 (6) **Changes in status.** * * * An advanced practice
245 registered nurse who is required to have a
246 collaborative/consultative relationship with a licensed physician



247 shall notify the board immediately regarding changes in the
248 collaborative/consultative relationship * * *. If changes leave
249 the advanced practice registered nurse without a board-approved
250 collaborative/consultative relationship with a physician or
251 dentist, the advanced practice nurse may not practice as an
252 advanced practice registered nurse.

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

255 (a) According to standards and guidelines of the
256 National Certification Organization.

257 (b) In a collaborative/consultative relationship with a
258 licensed physician whose practice is compatible with that of the
259 nurse practitioner, except as otherwise authorized in Section
260 73-20-20.1. Certified registered nurse anesthetists may
261 collaborate/consult with licensed dentists. The advanced practice
262 registered nurse must be able to communicate reliably with a
263 collaborating/consulting physician or dentist while practicing.

264 (c) According to a board-approved protocol or practice
265 guidelines, except as otherwise authorized in Section 73-20-20.1.

266 (d) Advanced practice registered nurses practicing as
267 nurse anesthetists must practice according to board-approved
268 practice guidelines that address pre-anesthesia preparation and
269 evaluation; anesthesia induction, maintenance, and emergence;
270 post-anesthesia care; peri-anesthetic and clinical support
271 functions.



279 (f) Each required collaborative/consultative
280 relationship shall include and implement a formal quality
281 assurance/quality improvement program which shall be maintained on
282 site and shall be available for inspection by representatives of
283 the board. This quality assurance/quality improvement program
284 must be sufficient to provide a valid evaluation of the practice
285 and be a valid basis for change, if any.

286 (g) Nurse practitioners may not write prescriptions
287 for, dispense or order the use of or administration of any
288 schedule of controlled substances except as contained in this
289 chapter.



297 substances" and "ultimate user," shall have the same meaning as
298 set forth in Section 41-29-105, unless the context otherwise
299 requires. The board shall promulgate rules governing prescribing
300 of controlled substances, including distribution, record keeping,
301 drug maintenance, labeling and distribution requirements and
302 prescription guidelines for controlled substances and all
303 medications. Prescribing any controlled substance in violation of
304 the rules promulgated by the board shall constitute a violation of
305 Section 73-15-29(1)(f), (k) and (l) and shall be grounds for
306 disciplinary action. The prescribing, administering or
307 distributing of any legend drug or other medication in violation
308 of the rules promulgated by the board shall constitute a violation
309 of Section 73-15-29(1)(f), (k) and (l) and shall be grounds for
310 disciplinary action.

311 **SECTION 4.** This act shall take effect and be in force from
312 and after July 1, 2025.

