

By: Representative Scoggin

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.



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

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

32           (b) The CRNP has accumulated at least ten thousand  
33   (10,000) hours of documented clinical practice as a CRNP;

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

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

39           (3) Application and Review Process. (a) The board shall  
40   develop a rigorous application and review process for CRNPs  
41   seeking full practice authority under this section.

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

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

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



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

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

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

(5) Rules and Regulations. The board shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions of this section, including specific requirements for the application, review process, and ongoing monitoring of CRNPs granted full practice authority. The Division of Medicaid shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement the Medicaid enrollment and reimbursement aspects of this section.

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

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

(2) The "practice of nursing" by a registered nurse means the performance for compensation of services which requires substantial knowledge of the biological, physical, behavioral, psychological and sociological sciences and of nursing theory as the basis for assessment, diagnosis, planning, intervention and



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



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

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

(5) The "practice of nursing" by a licensed practical nurse means the performance for compensation of services requiring basic knowledge of the biological, physical, behavioral, psychological and sociological sciences and of nursing procedures which do not require the substantial skill, judgment and knowledge required of a registered nurse. These services are performed under the direction of a registered nurse or a licensed physician or licensed dentist and utilize standardized procedures in the 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



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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

(b) Certification by a board-approved certifying body. Such certification shall be required for initial state certification and any recertification as a registered nurse anesthetist, nurse practitioner or nurse midwife. The board may by rule provide for provisional or temporary state certification of graduate nurse practitioners for a period of time determined to be appropriate for preparing and passing the National 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



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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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



(e) Except as otherwise authorized in Section 73-20-20.1, advanced practice registered nurses practicing in other specialty areas must practice according to a board-approved protocol that has been mutually agreed upon by the nurse practitioner and a Mississippi licensed physician or dentist whose practice or prescriptive authority is not limited as a result of voluntary surrender or legal/regulatory order.

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

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

(8) **Prescribing controlled substances and medications.** Certified nurse midwives and certified nurse practitioners may apply for controlled substance prescriptive authority after completing a board-approved educational program. Certified nurse midwives and certified nurse practitioners who have completed the program and received prescription authority from the board may prescribe Schedules II-V. The words "administer," "controlled



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

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

