

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2023-146

REQUESTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR STUDY AUTHORIZING CERTIFIED NURSING AIDES, ALSO KNOWN AS CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANTS, TO PERFORM ADDITIONAL CARE AND DUTIES IN IN-HOME SETTINGS IF APPROPRIATELY TRAINED ON THE SKILL WHICH IS BEING PERFORMD OR ASSISTED WITH AND CONSENTED TO BY A PATIENT OR A PATIENT'S REPRESENTATIVE.

WHEREAS, certified nursing aides, also known as certified nursing assistants, are essential to providing in-home care for citizens across this state; and

WHEREAS, certified nursing aides provide a wide range of basic care to patients who are unable to manage their needs alone, including activities such as bathing, grooming, toileting, eating, and moving; and

WHEREAS, certified nursing aides have a relatively short training program and certification timeline as opposed to other healthcare professionals; and

WHEREAS, Arkansas has a healthcare professional shortage that has resulted in difficulty for patients in in-home settings who need care and duties outside of the scope of practice of a certified nursing aide; and

WHEREAS, certified nursing aides could be utilized to provide additional care and duties in in-home settings if appropriately trained on the skill that is being performed or assisted with and if the patient or the patient's representative consent to the performance of the care and duties by a certified nursing aide,

NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT PROPOSED BY THE Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

THAT the Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor study

1 authorizing certified nursing aides, also known as certified nursing
2 assistants, to perform additional care and duties in in-home settings if
3 appropriately trained on the skill that is being is performed or assisted
4 with and consented to by the patient or the patient's representative.
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6 Respectfully submitted,
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10 Senator Clint Penzo

11 District 31
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14 Prepared by: JMB/JMB
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