INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2025-110

State of Arkansas
95th General Assembly

A Bill

JMB/JMB
SENATE BILL

By: Senator C. Penzo

Filed with: Senate Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor pursuant to A.C.A. §10-3-217.

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO EXPAND PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY FOR AN ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE TO INCLUDE ALL SCHEDULE II SUBSTANCES WITHIN THEIR SCOPE OF PRACTICE; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO EXPAND PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY FOR AN ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE TO INCLUDE ALL SCHEDULE II SUBSTANCES WITHIN THEIR SCOPE OF PRACTICE.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-87-310(b)(2), concerning the prescriptive authority of an advanced practice registered nurse, is amended to read as follows:

(2)(A) An advanced practice registered nurse's prescriptive authority shall extend ~~only~~ to drugs listed in Schedules II - V within his or her scope of practice ~~Schedules III – V and, if expressly authorized by the collaborative practice agreement, also to those hydrocodone combination products reclassified from Schedule III to Schedule II as of October 6, 2014~~.

~~(B) An advanced practice registered nurse's prescriptive authority also extends to drugs listed in Schedule II if:~~

~~(i) The prescription is for an opioid and the prescription is only for a five-day period or less; or~~

~~(ii)(a) The prescription is for a stimulant.~~

~~(b) A prescription for a stimulant shall meet the following criteria:~~

~~(1) The prescription was originally initiated by a physician;~~

~~(2) The physician has evaluated the patient within six (6) months before the advanced practice registered nurse issues a prescription; and~~

~~(3) The prescription by the advanced practice registered nurse is to treat the same condition as the original prescription.~~

~~(c)(1) An advanced practice registered nurse may substitute a therapeutically equivalent medication of the drug prescribed by the physician under subdivision (b)(2)(B)(ii) of this section.~~

~~(2) If the advanced practice registered nurse substitutes a therapeutically equivalent medication under subdivision (b)(2)(B)(ii)(c)(1) of this section, the advanced practice registered nurse shall notify the physician who originally prescribed the stimulant of the substitution.~~

(B) The Arkansas State Board of Nursing shall adopt rules for safe and appropriate prescribing of stimulant medications listed in Schedule II.

Referred by Senator C. Penzo

Prepared by: JMB/JMB