
Reference to the Committee on Human Resources suggested and ordered printed.

Presented by Senator GOLDTHWAIT of Hancock.
Cosponsored by Senator McCORMICK of Kennebec and
Senators: BENOIT of Franklin, MILLS of Somerset, O’DEA of Penobscot, PARADIS of
Aroostook, RAND of Cumberland, Representatives: CAMERON of Rumford, ETNIER of
Harpwell, KILKELLY of Wiscasset, PINKHAM of Lamoine, TOWNSEND of Portland,
TREAT of Gardiner, WATSON of Farmingdale.
Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §927, sub-§4, ¶B, as amended by PL 1993, c. 92, §2, is further amended to read:

B. Independent agency:

(6) State Planning Office; and

(8) Joint Practice Council on Advanced Practice Registered Nurses.

Sec. 2. 5 MRSA §12004-I, sub-§72-C is enacted to read:

72-C. Occupations: Registered Nurse Practitioners Joint Practice Council on Advanced Practice Registered Nurses Discretion of Appointing Agency 32 MRSA

Sec. 3. 32 MRSA §2102, sub-§2, ¶B, as amended by PL 1993, c. 600, Pt. A, §110, is repealed.

Sec. 4. 32 MRSA §2102, sub-§10 is enacted to read:

10. Advanced practice registered nurse. An "advanced practice registered nurse" is a registered professional nurse who, on the basis of advanced, specialized education and certification credentials, is prepared to provide health care services. The practice builds on previous knowledge and skill and utilizes in-depth knowledge of physical assessment and management of illnesses or conditions within the advanced practice registered nurse's area of practice. "Advanced practice registered nurse" includes a certified nurse practitioner, a certified nurse midwife, a certified psychiatric clinical nurse specialist, a certified clinical nurse specialist and a certified nurse anesthetist who are approved by the board.

A. An advanced practice registered nurse must:

(1) Hold a current license to practice as a registered professional nurse in this State;

(2) Have completed a formal education program in advanced nursing or nurse midwifery, or both, in the speciality area of practice that is acceptable to the board; and

(3) Hold a current certification credential for advanced nursing practice from a national certifying...
body whose certification program is acceptable to the
board.

The board shall adopt rules defining the appropriate
standards of practice and requirements for authorization to
practice under this subsection.

A registered nurse approved and licensed to practice, in
accordance with former section 2102, subsection 2, paragraph
B, prior to the effective date of this subsection is deemed
approved as an advanced practice registered nurse.

B. A person who qualifies under this subsection and whose
application for advanced practice registered nurse
designation has been approved by the board is designated an
advanced practice registered nurse. "A.P.R.N." is the
abbreviation for the title of "advanced practice registered
nurse." The approved applicant may use the title "A.P.R.N."
and the title or abbreviation designated by the national
certifying body.

C. Temporary approval to practice as an advanced practice
registered nurse may be granted by the board:

   (1) For a period of 90 days to an applicant who is
currently approved to practice as an advanced practice
registered nurse in another jurisdiction with
requirements at least equivalent to those of this
State; or

   (2) To an applicant who meets the requirements of
paragraph A, subparagraphs (1) and (2) and who
qualifies for and takes the next available
certification exam.

D. Advanced practice registered nurse designation may be
terminated by the board when the advanced practice
registered nurse no longer holds a current certification
credential.

E. A certified nurse practitioner and a certified nurse
midwife approved by the board may prescribed drugs or
devices, or both. The board shall issue rules governing the
prescription of drugs or devices, or both, by a certified
nurse practitioner and a certified nurse midwife approved by
the board. In adopting the rules, the board shall invite
comment from the Joint Practice Council on Advanced Practice
Registered Nurses.
F. The Joint Practice Council on Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, referred to in this subsection as the "council," is established.

(1) The Joint Practice Council on Advanced Practice Registered Nurses consists of 4 members, including 2 members from the State Board of Nursing, one member from the Board of Licensure in Medicine and one member from the Board of Osteopathic Licensure. Each board shall appoint its representatives to serve terms at the discretion of the appointing board. In adopting rules of the council, members must be guided by the best interests of the general public and not the interests of their own professions.

The State Board of Nursing shall designate one of its appointees as the first chair of the council, who shall call the first meeting of the council. The position of chair must be rotated among members at intervals determined by the council.

(2) The council shall make recommendations to the appropriate boards on matters of mutual concern. The duties of the council are advisory in nature.

STATEMENT OF FACT

This bill allows certain registered nurses to be designated as advanced practice registered nurses authorized to prescribe certain drugs and devices.

This bill also establishes the Joint Practice Council on Advanced Practice Registered Nurses.