

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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# 123rd MAINE LEGISLATURE

## FIRST REGULAR SESSION-2007

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Legislative Document

No. 1598

H.P. 1120

House of Representatives, March 21, 2007

### **An Act To Grant Supervisory Privileges to Qualified Independent Nurse Practitioners**

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Reference to the Committee on Business, Research and Economic Development suggested and ordered printed.

*Millicent M. MacFarland*  
MILLICENT M. MacFARLAND  
Clerk

Presented by Representative PINKHAM of Lexington Township.  
Cosponsored by Senator SHERMAN of Aroostook and  
Representatives: Speaker CUMMINGS of Portland, FINLEY of Skowhegan, PINGREE of  
North Haven.

1 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:**

2 **Sec. 1. 32 MRSA §2102, sub-§2-A**, as amended by PL 2003, c. 510, Pt. B, §10,  
3 is further amended to read:

4 **2-A. Advanced practice registered nursing.** "Advanced practice registered  
5 nursing" means the delivery of expanded professional health care by an advanced practice  
6 registered nurse that is:

7 B. Within the advanced practice registered nurse's scope of practice as specified by  
8 the board by rulemaking, taking into consideration any national standards that exist;  
9 and

10 C. In accordance with the standards of practice for advanced practice registered  
11 nurses as specified by the board by rulemaking, taking into consideration any national  
12 standards that may exist. Advanced practice registered nursing includes consultation  
13 with or referral to medical and other health care providers when required by client  
14 health care needs.

15 A certified nurse practitioner or a certified nurse midwife who qualifies as an advanced  
16 practice registered nurse may prescribe and dispense drugs or devices, or both, in  
17 accordance with rules adopted by the board.

18 A certified nurse practitioner who qualifies as an advanced practice registered nurse must  
19 practice, for at least 24 months, under the supervision of a licensed physician or a  
20 qualified independent nurse practitioner or must be employed by a clinic or hospital that  
21 has a medical director who is a licensed physician. The certified nurse practitioner ~~must~~  
22 shall submit written evidence to the board upon completion of the required clinical  
23 experience.

24 The board shall adopt rules necessary to effectuate the purposes of this chapter relating to  
25 advanced practice registered nursing.

26 **Sec. 2. 32 MRSA §2102, sub-§10** is enacted to read:

27 **10. Qualified independent nurse practitioner.** A "qualified independent nurse  
28 practitioner" means a certified nurse practitioner who qualifies as an advanced practice  
29 registered nurse who has:

30 A. Completed 24 months of supervised practice in accordance with subsection 2-A;

31 B. Practiced as an advanced practice registered nurse for a minimum of 5 years;

32 C. Been a registered nurse for a minimum of 10 years;

33 D. Worked in the field of medicine for a minimum of 10 years; and

34 E. Been approved by the board.

35 The board shall adopt rules necessary to effectuate the purposes of this chapter relating to  
36 qualified independent nurse practitioners. Rules adopted pursuant to this subsection are  
37 routine technical rules as defined in Title 5, chapter 375, subchapter 2-A.

**SUMMARY**

1

2       This bill authorizes qualified independent registered nurse practitioners to provide the  
3 supervision necessary for a certified nurse practitioner to qualify to practice as an  
4 advanced practice registered nurse.