

INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2021-151

State of Arkansas

93rd General Assembly

Third Extraordinary Session, 2022

**A Bill**

JMB/JMB

SENATE BILL

By: Senator K. Hammer

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 AUTHORIZE ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED  
NURSES TO PRESCRIBE SCHEDULE II DRUGS; TO REQUIRE  
ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES TO CHECK THE  
PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM BEFORE  
PRESCRIBING A CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE; AND FOR OTHER  
PURPOSES.

**Subtitle**

TO AUTHORIZE ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED  
NURSES TO PRESCRIBE SCHEDULE II DRUGS;  
AND TO REQUIRE ADVANCED PRACTICE  
REGISTERED NURSES TO CHECK THE  
PRESCRIPTION DRUG MONITORING PROGRAM.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-87-310(b)(2), concerning 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 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~~ Schedules II – V.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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17                 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-87-310, concerning prescriptive  
18 authority for an advanced practice registered nurse, is amended to add an  
19 additional subsection to read as follows:

20                 (f) An advanced practice registered nurse shall provide the following  
21 information to the Arkansas State Board of Nursing to renew his or her  
22 prescriptive authority:

23                         (1) A report from the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program for  
24 the previous six (6) months of his or her prescriptive authority activity;  
25 and

26                                 (2) Documentation indicating that the advanced practice  
27 registered nurse has completed at least ten (10) hours of continuing  
28 education related to conditions frequently managed with controlled  
29 substances.

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31                 SECTION 3. Arkansas Code § 20-7-604(d), concerning requirements for  
32 the Prescription Drug Monitoring Program, is amended to add an additional  
33 subdivision to read as follows:

34                         (4) An advanced practice registered nurse shall check the  
35 information in the program before prescribing any controlled substance.

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2 Referred by Senator K. Hammer  
3 Prepared by: JMB/JMB  
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