

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021
4

As Engrossed: H3/4/21

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1198

5 By: Representatives Penzo, Brown, Bragg, Evans, Lowery, Miller, *Eubanks*
6 By: Senators D. Wallace, J. English
7

For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF "PRACTICE OF
10 CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHESIA" BY REMOVING
11 SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
12
13

Subtitle

15 TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF "PRACTICE OF
16 CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHESIA" BY
17 REMOVING SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS.
18
19

20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
21

22 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-87-102(7), concerning the definition of
23 "practice of certified registered nurse anesthesia" regarding the practice of
24 nursing, is amended to read as follows:

25 (7)(A) "Practice of certified registered nurse anesthesia" means
26 the performance for compensation of advanced nursing practices by a certified
27 registered nurse anesthetist that are relevant to the administration of
28 anesthetics ~~under the supervision of~~ in consultation with, but not
29 necessarily in the presence of, a licensed physician, licensed dentist, or
30 other person lawfully entitled to order anesthesia.

31 (B)(i) A certified registered nurse anesthetist may order
32 nurses, within his or her scope of practice, to administer drugs
33 preoperatively and postoperatively in connection with an anesthetic or other
34 operative or invasive procedure, or both, that will be or has been provided.

35 (ii) A certified registered nurse anesthetist may select,
36 obtain, and administer Schedule II drugs only during the perioperative, peri-



1 obstetrical, and medical procedure period.

2 (C) As used in this subdivision (7):

3 (i)(a) "Consultation" means the manner and process
4 utilized between a certified registered nurse anesthetist and a licensed
5 physician, licensed dentist, or other person lawfully entitled to order
6 anesthesia performing the procedure or directly involved with the procedure
7 when working jointly toward a common goal of providing services for the
8 patient.

9 (b) In consultation, the consulting party
10 shall remain immediately available for consultation during the delivery of
11 anesthesia for diagnosis, consultation, and treatment of medical conditions.

12 (c) The hospital's administrative staff,
13 medical staff, and governing body shall determine the guidelines on
14 immediately available for consultation;

15 (ii) "Medical procedure" means a course of action
16 intended to achieve a result in the delivery of healthcare as consulted by a
17 licensed physician, licensed dentist, or other person lawfully entitled to
18 order anesthesia;

19 (iii) "Peri-obstetrical" means preanesthetic
20 preparation or evaluation, anesthesia induction, maintenance or emergence, or
21 postanesthesia care of the pregnant female; and

22 (iv) "Perioperative" means preanesthetic preparation
23 or evaluation, anesthesia induction, maintenance or emergence, or
24 postanesthesia care of clients.

25 (D) For purposes of this subdivision (7), a licensed
26 physician, licensed dentist, or other person lawfully entitled to order
27 anesthesia is not liable for any act or omission of a certified registered
28 nurse anesthetist who orders or administers anesthetics;

29
30 SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. Construction.

31 This act does not limit and should not be interpreted to limit the
32 right or authority, or both, of the healthcare facility to choose an
33 anesthesia practice model.

34
35 **APPROVED 03/24/2021**