A Bill

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY OF AN
ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE; AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY OF AN
ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE.

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

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

(b)(1) An advanced practice registered nurse with a certificate of prescriptive authority may receive and prescribe drugs, medicines, or therapeutic devices appropriate to the advanced practice registered nurse’s area of practice in accordance with rules established by the Arkansas State Board of Nursing.

(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.

(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) The prescription is for a stimulant and meets the following criteria:

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

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

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

(3)(A) The Arkansas State Board of Nursing shall promptly adopt rules applicable to an advanced practice registered nurse that are consistent with the Arkansas State Medical Board’s rules governing the prescription of dangerous drugs and controlled substances.

(B) Before approval of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing's rules, the Arkansas State Medical Board shall review the proposed rules and verify that the proposed rules are consistent with the Arkansas State Medical Board’s rules concerning the prescription of dangerous drugs and controlled substances.

/s/Gonzales