

1 INTERIM STUDY PROPOSAL 2017-138

2
3 REQUESTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND
4 LABOR STUDY THE TRANSFER OF REGULATORY OVERSIGHT OF ADVANCED
5 PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES TO THE ARKANSAS STATE MEDICAL BOARD.
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7 WHEREAS, the training of an advanced practice registered nurse exceeds
8 the education, training, and experience of registered nurses and licensed
9 practical nurses; and
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11 WHEREAS, advanced practice registered nurses hold prescriptive
12 authority that is not held by registered nurses and licensed practical
13 nurses; and
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15 WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Board of Nursing is currently composed of
16 thirteen (13) members consisting of:

- 17 (1) One (1) consumer member;
18 (2) One (1) representative of the elderly;
19 (3) One (1) at large registered nurse or licensed practical
20 nurse;
21 (4) Five (5) registered nurses;
22 (5) Three (3) licensed practical nurses; and
23 (6) Two (2) advanced practice registered nurses; and
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25 WHEREAS, current Arkansas law requires only one (1) of the two (2)
26 advanced practice registered nurses who serve as board members of the
27 Arkansas State Board of Nursing to have prescriptive authority; and
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29 WHEREAS, the majority of the Arkansas State Board of Nursing does not
30 have the formal training and prescriptive certification to regulate advanced
31 practice registered nurses with prescriptive authority; and
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33 WHEREAS, the Arkansas Nurse Practitioner Association has advocated that
34 advanced practice registered nurses be authorized to provide the same
35 services as physicians; and
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1 WHEREAS, physicians have prescriptive authority, are treated as primary
2 care providers, and are regulated by the Arkansas State Medical Board; and

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4 WHEREAS, the Arkansas State Medical Board is currently composed of
5 fourteen (14) members with twelve (12) of the members being physicians with
6 prescriptive authority; and

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8 WHEREAS, the General Assembly should ensure that regulation of similar
9 professions should be adequate and consistent,

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11 NOW THEREFORE,

12 BE IT PROPOSED BY THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE, AND LABOR OF
13 THE NINETIETH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

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15 THAT the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare, and Labor study:

16 (1) The transfer of regulatory oversight of advanced practice
17 registered nurses from the Arkansas State Board of Nursing to the Arkansas
18 State Medical Board; and

19 (2) Alternatively, the shared regulatory oversight of advanced
20 practice registered nurses by a joint committee composed of members of the
21 Arkansas State Medical Board and the Arkansas State Board of Nursing.

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23 Respectfully submitted,

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27 Representative Stephen Magie

28 District 72

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30 Prepared by: JMB/JMB