

State of Arkansas  
90th General Assembly  
Regular Session, 2015

# A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1136

By: Representative Magie

## For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY OF  
ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES AND PHYSICIAN  
ASSISTANTS; TO EXTEND PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY TO  
HYDROCODONE COMBINATION PRODUCTS IF EXPRESSLY  
AUTHORIZED BY A PHYSICIAN; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

## Subtitle

TO AMEND THE PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY OF  
ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES AND  
PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS; TO EXTEND  
PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY TO HYDROCODONE  
COMBINATION PRODUCTS IF EXPRESSLY  
AUTHORIZED BY A PHYSICIAN.

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

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-87-310(b)(2), concerning prescriptive  
authority for an advanced practice registered nurse, is amended to read as  
follows:

(2) An advanced practice registered nurse's prescriptive  
authority ~~shall only extend~~ 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.

(3)(A) The Arkansas State Board of Nursing shall promptly adopt  
rules applicable to an advance practice registered nurse that are consistent  
with the Arkansas State Medical Board's rules governing the prescription of



1 dangerous drugs and controlled substances.

2 (B) Prior to approval of the Arkansas State Board of  
3 Nursing's rules, the Arkansas State Medical Board shall review the proposed  
4 rules and verify that the proposed rules are consistent with the Arkansas  
5 State Medical Board rules concerning the prescription of dangerous drugs and  
6 controlled substances.

7  
8 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code § 17-105-108, concerning prescriptive  
9 authority for a physician assistant, is amended to read as follows:

10 17-105-108. Prescriptive authority.

11 (a) Physicians supervising physician assistants may delegate  
12 prescriptive authority to physician assistants to include prescribing,  
13 ordering, and administering Schedule III-V controlled substances as described  
14 in the Uniform Controlled Substances Act, §§ 5-64-101 – 5-64-510, and 21  
15 C.F.R. Part 1300, all legend drugs, and all nonschedule prescription  
16 medications and medical devices. All prescriptions and orders issued by a  
17 physician assistant shall ~~also~~ identify his or her supervising physician.

18 (b) A physician assistant may prescribe hydrocodone combination  
19 products reclassified from Schedule III to Schedule II as of October 6, 2014,  
20 if authorized by the physician assistant's supervising physician and in  
21 accordance with other requirements of this section.

22 ~~(b)(c)~~ (c) At no time shall a physician assistant's level of prescriptive  
23 authority exceed that of the supervising physician.

24 ~~(e)(d)~~ (d) Physician assistants who prescribe controlled substances ~~must~~  
25 shall register with the Drug Enforcement Administration as part of the Drug  
26 Enforcement Administration's Mid-Level Practitioner Registry, 21 C.F.R. Part  
27 1300, 58 FR 31171-31175, and the Controlled Substances Act.

28 (e) The Arkansas State Medical Board shall promptly adopt rules  
29 concerning physician assistants that are consistent with the Arkansas State  
30 Medical Board's rules governing the prescription of dangerous drugs and  
31 controlled substances by physicians.