

1 State of Arkansas
2 90th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2015
4

A Bill

SENATE BILL 78

5 By: Senator G. Stubblefield
6

For An Act To Be Entitled

8 AN ACT TO ELIMINATE PHYSICIAN SUPERVISION
9 REQUIREMENTS IN ANESTHESIA ADMINISTRATION; TO MODIFY
10 THE DEFINITION OF "PRACTICE OF CERTIFIED REGISTERED
11 NURSE ANESTHESIA" BY DELETING SUPERVISION LANGUAGE
12 PREVIOUSLY REQUIRED TO MEET MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT
13 MANDATES; TO PROVIDE IMMUNITY IN CERTAIN
14 CIRCUMSTANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.
15

Subtitle

16
17
18 TO ELIMINATE PHYSICIAN SUPERVISION
19 REQUIREMENTS IN ANESTHESIA
20 ADMINISTRATION; AND TO PROVIDE IMMUNITY
21 IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.
22
23

24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
25

26 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-87-102(7)(A), concerning the definition
27 of "practice of certified registered nurse anesthesia", is amended to read as
28 follows:

29 (7)(A) "Practice of certified registered nurse anesthesia" means the
30 performance for compensation of advanced nursing skills relevant to the
31 administration of anesthetics ~~under the supervision of, but not necessarily~~
32 ~~in the presence of, a licensed physician, licensed dentist, or other person~~
33 ~~lawfully entitled to order anesthesia.~~
34

35 SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 17, Chapter 95, Subchapter 1, is
36 amended to add an additional section to read as follows:



1 17-95-109. Coordination with a certified registered nurse anesthetist
2 - Immunity from liability.

3 A physician who is licensed to practice medicine by the Arkansas State
4 Medical Board and who renders medical services in coordination with a
5 certified registered nurse anesthetist who administers anesthetics without
6 supervision is not liable for damages resulting from an act or omission that
7 was the result of the administration of anesthetics by the certified
8 registered nurse anesthetist unless the act or omission was the result of the
9 physician's gross negligence, willful misconduct, or intentional act.

10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33
34
35
36