

# SUPPORT SB 187

AS A VIABLE SOLUTION TO LOUISIANA'S CURRENT HEALTH CARE CRISIS.



IMPROVED  
ACCESS



INCREASED  
EFFICIENCY



DECREASED  
COSTS

In the state of Louisiana, nurse practitioners must maintain a business contract called a collaborative agreement with a physician. These agreements are costly and logistically burdensome.

More importantly, collaborative agreements have **NO** demonstrated benefits on patient health or safety outcomes. In fact, research has found that patient health outcomes are better where the mandated agreement has been eliminated.

## WHAT THE BILL DOES

**SB 187**, by Sen Regina Barrow, would eliminate the onerous collaborative agreement and **allow nurse practitioners to practice to the full extent of their education, training and competence.**

- **SB 187 does NOT** expand nurse practitioners' scope of practice. The bill would only authorize nurse practitioners to perform services they are currently educated and licensed to do under Louisiana law.
- **SB 187 would NOT** prevent nurse practitioners from collaborating with physicians. Nurse practitioners will continue to work with physicians and refer patients to physician specialists when needed.

## WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

With the passage of the Affordable Care Act, Louisiana increased the ranks of insured patients which, unfortunately, worsened the impact of our state's physician shortage. Several studies show that for routine primary care needs, outcomes for patients treated by licensed nurse practitioners are no different than those treated by physicians.



Granting nurse practitioners full practice authority improves access to **quality, cost-effective care for all Louisianians.** This is especially important to underserved populations in both rural and urban areas of the state.



LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION OF NURSE PRACTITIONERS

# DO OTHER STATES HAVE SIMILAR LAWS?

**22 OTHER STATES**  
including the District of Columbia

have removed barriers to care by **eliminating the collaborative practice agreement.**

## RESEARCH REVEALS THESE STATES EXPERIENCED:



**Reduced hospitalizations and readmissions**



**Increased healthcare access for residents**



**Decreased emergency room visits**

## SUMMARY

Removing the collaborative practice agreement does **NOT** mean that nurse practitioners will stop collaborating. They will continue to coordinate care with physicians and other health care providers as they always have, based on the individual needs of the patients and their families.

LOUISIANA CURRENTLY RANKS **50TH** IN OVERALL HEALTH.

**Now more than ever,  
our state needs to embrace proven health strategies.**



**SB 187 IS A VIABLE SOLUTION**

to help address the current health care crisis our state faces.