ENGROSSED HOUSE
BILL NO. 1709

By: Marti of the House
and
Garvin of the Senate

An Act relating to Advanced Practice Registered Nurses; defining terms; increasing the number of SoonerCare patients Advanced Practice Registered Nurses can provide care for; providing exception; providing for codification; and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 570 of Title 59, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

As used in this section:

1. "Advanced Practice Registered Nurse" means a licensed Registered Nurse:

   a. who has completed an Advanced Practice Registered Nursing education program in preparation for one of
four recognized Advanced Practice Registered Nurse roles,

b. who has passed a national certification examination recognized by the Board that measures the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse role and specialty competencies and who maintains recertification in the role and specialty through a national certification program,

c. who has acquired advanced clinical knowledge and skills in preparation for providing both direct and indirect care to patients; however, the defining factor for all Advanced Practice Registered Nurses is that a significant component of the education and practice focuses on direct care of individuals,

d. whose practice builds on the competencies of Registered Nurses by demonstrating a greater depth and breadth of knowledge, a greater synthesis of data, and increased complexity of skills and interventions, and

e. who has obtained a license as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse in one of the following roles: Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist, Certified Nurse-Midwife, Clinical Nurse Specialist, or Certified Nurse Practitioner;
2. "Medicaid" means the medical assistance program authorized by 42 U.S.C., Section 1396a et seq. The program provides medical benefits for certain low-income persons. It is jointly administered by the federal and state governments;

3. "Primary care providers" means a provider under contract with the Oklahoma Health Care Authority to provide primary care services and case management, including all medically necessary referrals; and

4. "SoonerCare" means the Medicaid program administered by the Oklahoma Health Care Authority.

SECTION 2. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 570.1 of Title 59, unless there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

A. Except as otherwise provided by subsection B of this section, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses may serve as primary care providers to as many as Two Thousand Five Hundred (2,500) SoonerCare members.

B. The director of the Oklahoma Health Care Authority shall have the discretion to waive the numerical limit otherwise prescribed by subsection A of this section.

SECTION 3. It being immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health or safety, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, by reason whereof this act shall take effect and be in full force from and after its passage and approval.
Passed the House of Representatives the 27th day of February, 2023.


Passed the Senate the ___ day of __________, 2023.


Presiding Officer of the House of Representatives

Presiding Officer of the Senate