

SENATE BILL No. 246

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 25-22.5-2-7; IC 25-23-1.

Synopsis: Advanced practice registered nurses. Requires the Indiana medical licensing board to accept and review complaints concerning physician collaborative practice agreements with advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs). Provides that an APRN may only: (1) operate in collaboration with a licensed practitioner who specializes in the same practice area as the advanced practice registered nurse; and (2) practice within the scope of the APRN's specialty. Allows a physician to enter into a collaborative agreement with more than four APRNs but prohibits the physician from collaborating with more than four APRNs at the same time.

Effective: July 1, 2025.

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January 9, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Health and Provider Services.



First Regular Session of the 124th General Assembly (2025)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in **this style type**, and deletions will appear in ~~this style type~~.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or ~~this style type~~ reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2024 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

SENATE BILL No. 246

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning professions and occupations.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

- 1 SECTION 1. IC 25-22.5-2-7, AS AMENDED BY P.L.3-2024,
- 2 SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
- 3 JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 7. (a) The board shall do the following:
- 4 (1) Adopt rules and forms necessary to implement this article that
- 5 concern, but are not limited to, the following areas:
- 6 (A) Qualification by education, residence, citizenship,
- 7 training, and character for admission to an examination for
- 8 licensure or by endorsement for licensure.
- 9 (B) The examination for licensure.
- 10 (C) The license or permit.
- 11 (D) Fees for examination, permit, licensure, and registration.
- 12 (E) Reinstatement of licenses and permits.
- 13 (F) Payment of costs in disciplinary proceedings conducted by
- 14 the board.
- 15 (2) Administer oaths in matters relating to the discharge of the
- 16 board's official duties.
- 17 (3) Enforce this article and assign to the personnel of the agency



- duties as may be necessary in the discharge of the board's duty.
- (4) Maintain, through the agency, full and complete records of all applicants for licensure or permit and of all licenses and permits issued.
- (5) Make available, upon request, the complete schedule of minimum requirements for licensure or permit.
- (6) Issue, at the board's discretion, a temporary permit to an applicant for the interim from the date of application until the next regular meeting of the board.
- (7) Issue an unlimited license, a limited license, or a temporary medical permit, depending upon the qualifications of the applicant, to any applicant who successfully fulfills all of the requirements of this article.
- (8) Adopt rules establishing standards for the competent practice of medicine, osteopathic medicine, or any other form of practice regulated by a limited license or permit issued under this article.
- (9) Adopt rules regarding the appropriate prescribing of Schedule III or Schedule IV controlled substances for the purpose of weight reduction or to control obesity.
- (10) Adopt rules establishing standards for office based procedures that require moderate sedation, deep sedation, or general anesthesia.
- (11) Adopt rules or protocol establishing the following:
- (A) An education program to be used to educate women concerning breast density, including breast density classifications set forth in IC 25-22.5-13.2-1.
 - (B) Standards for providing an annual screening or diagnostic test for a woman who is at least forty (40) years of age whose breast and connective tissue in comparison to fat in the breast is determined to be dense.
- (12) Adopt rules establishing standards and protocols for the prescribing of controlled substances.
- (13) Adopt rules as set forth in IC 25-23.4 concerning the certification of certified direct entry midwives.
- (14) In consultation with the Indiana department of health and the office of the secretary of family and social services, adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 or protocols concerning the following for providers that are providing office based opioid treatment:
- (A) Requirements of a treatment agreement (as described in IC 12-23-20-2) concerning the proper referral and treatment of mental health and substance use.
 - (B) Parameters around the frequency and types of visits



required for the periodic scheduled visits required by
IC 12-23-20-2.

(C) Conditions on when the following should be ordered or
performed:

(i) A urine toxicology screening.

(ii) HIV, hepatitis B, and hepatitis C testing.

(D) Required documentation in a patient's medical record
when buprenorphine is prescribed over a specified dosage.

(15) Adopt rules as set forth in IC 25-14.5 concerning the
certification of certified dietitians.

(16) Adopt rules and establish fees as set forth in IC 25-8.5-2-6
concerning the licensure of behavior analysts.

(17) Administer the interstate medical licensure compact under
IC 25-22.5-16, including appointing members to the interstate
medical licensure compact commission and adopting any rules
necessary to administer the compact.

**(18) Accept and review complaints concerning a collaborating
physician's practice agreement with an advanced practice
registered nurse under IC 25-23-1-25.5.**

(b) The board may adopt rules that establish:

(1) certification requirements for child death pathologists;

(2) an annual training program for child death pathologists under
IC 16-35-7-3(b)(2); and

(3) a process to certify a qualified child death pathologist.

(c) The board may adopt rules under IC 4-22-2 establishing
guidelines for the practice of telehealth in Indiana. Adoption of rules
under this subsection may not delay the implementation and provision
of telehealth services by a provider under IC 25-1-9.5.

SECTION 2. IC 25-23-1-19.4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.127-2020,
SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
JULY 1, 2025]: Sec. 19.4. (a) This section does not apply to certified
registered nurse anesthetists.

(b) As used in this section, "practitioner" has the meaning set forth
in IC 16-42-19-5. However, the term does not include the following:

(1) A veterinarian.

(2) An advanced practice registered nurse.

(3) A physician assistant.

(c) **Subject to section 25.5 of this chapter**, an advanced practice
registered nurse shall operate:

(1) in collaboration with a licensed practitioner as evidenced by
a practice agreement;

(2) by privileges granted by the governing board of a hospital



licensed under IC 16-21 with the advice of the medical staff of the hospital that sets forth the manner in which an advanced practice registered nurse and a licensed practitioner will cooperate, coordinate, and consult with each other in the provision of health care to their patients; or

(3) by privileges granted by the governing body of a hospital operated under IC 12-24-1 that sets forth the manner in which an advanced practice registered nurse and a licensed practitioner will cooperate, coordinate, and consult with each other in the provision of health care to their patients.

(d) This subsection applies for purposes of the Medicaid program to an advanced practice registered nurse who:

(1) is licensed pursuant to ~~IC 25-23-1-19.5~~; **section 19.5 of this chapter**; and

(2) has been educated and trained to work with patients with addiction and mental health needs.

An advanced practice registered nurse who meets the requirements of this subsection has all of the supervisory rights and responsibilities, including prior authorization, that are available to a licensed physician or a health service provider in psychology (HSPP) operating in a community mental health center certified under IC 12-21-2-3(5)(C).

(e) Before January 1, 2021, the office of the secretary shall apply to the United States Department of Health and Human Services for any state plan amendment necessary to implement subsection (d).

SECTION 3. IC 25-23-1-25.5 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A **NEW** SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025]: **Sec. 25.5. (a) An advanced practice registered nurse may only operate in collaboration with a licensed practitioner (as defined in section 19.4 of this chapter) who specializes in the same practice area as the advanced practice registered nurse.**

(b) An advanced practice registered nurse may only practice within the scope of the advanced practice registered nurse's specialty.

(c) A physician may enter into a collaborative agreement with more than four (4) advanced practice registered nurses but may not collaborate with more than four (4) advanced practice registered nurses at the same time.

