



Full Practice Authority Talking Points

HB 1013, by Rep. Josh Cockroft

- House Bill 1013, the bill to establish full practice authority for APRNs in Oklahoma, was passed by the full House on March 1, 2017, by a vote of 72-20.
- The bill received support from House members across the state – in both rural and urban districts.
- When looking at House districts that are geographically aligned with each Senate district, we see that in 47 out of 48 Senate districts, there is at least one House member who supports the bill.
- In a majority of Senate districts (38 out of 48) a majority of geographically aligned House members support the bill.
- House members have spoken for their constituents. NPs would ask that Senate members be allowed to have the same chance to speak on behalf of their constituents.
- By allowing NPs and APRNs to practice at the full scope of their capabilities, Oklahoma would have an opportunity to:
 - **Increase access to affordable health care, particularly in rural areas;**
 - **Address a shortage of primary care providers;**
 - **Offer consumers shorter drives and shorter wait times;**
 - **Improve public health;**
 - **Offer consumers the freedom to make the health choices that are right for them and their families.**
- Nothing in this bill changes a nurse practitioners' scope of practice. This is work they are doing in communities across the state everyday.
- Full practice authority would spur economic development in rural parts of the state. Businesses are unlikely to relocate to areas without an adequate health care infrastructure. Plus, each new clinic that opens creates new jobs.
- Oklahoma is one of only 12 states that still require a physician to supervise NPs. Other states have successfully passed similar bills and they have dramatically improved access to care and improved their health record.



- In December 2016, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs announced that it would allow nurse practitioners, certified nurse specialists and certified nurse midwives to work with full practice authority in Veterans Affairs facilities in all 50 states. If the Department of Veterans Affairs trusts nurse practitioners to carry their share of the responsibility of caring for our nation's heroes, then Oklahoma's legislators should do the same and allow nurse practitioners to do their part in providing health care to all Oklahomans.
- There is a misconception that physicians see NP patients or make supervisory decisions on the care we deliver. In many cases, they do not.
- As a nurse practitioner, I understand my scope of practice. I know which conditions I am qualified to treat and how to treat them. Just like a physician, I know when to refer to a specialist or send a patient to the emergency room. I know how to care for my patients.
- Nurse practitioners just want the freedom to put our education to work caring for Oklahomans and giving them greater access to quality, affordable healthcare.