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**\*\*\*\*\*Priority Issue\*\*\*\*\* Priority Issue\*\*\*\*\* Priority Issue\*\*\*\*\*****HB 821- Advanced practice registered nurses (Pigman)****SB 972 - Innovation in the advanced practice registered nursing workforce (Brandes)**

Florida nurse practitioners have provided safe high quality care to our citizens since 1979. A 2011 report from The Institute of Medicine (IOM) calls on nurses to take a greater role in America's increasingly complex health care system. The American Nurses Association acknowledges and promotes the need for nurses to take a leadership role in all settings to meet the demands of our changing health care system. Even prior to the IOM report, the Florida Nurses Association has long supported and advocated for the premise that nurses should function at the full level of their education and ability.

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) are skilled clinicians, whose expertise could serve as an integral component in the expansion and affordability of health care in the United States. Unfortunately, their practice is often restrained by collaborative agreements with their physician colleagues. . Correction of this situation would entail removing the requirement of physician oversight of their practice, as current regulation in Florida mandates that APRNs must be accountable to a supervising physician.

Nurses at all levels are keenly aware of their abilities and limitations and work within a model of professional collaboration with both their nursing and physician colleagues. The quality and safety of their practice has been supported with evidence based research. The growth of the advanced practice arena has generated multiple research studies that have demonstrated a high level quality, safety and consistency in care delivered by Advanced Practice Registered Nurses.

Additionally, nurses have a tradition of focus on both quality and process improvement and a continued commitment to evidence-based practice and research at every level of the profession.

## References

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