

Nurse Practitioners

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The state Senate passed on a 39-10 vote SB 25, a measure to expand the scope of practice and prescriptive authority for nurse practitioners. The bill, sponsored by state Sen. Camera Bartolotta, R-Washington, would direct the state Board of Nursing to create a new category—Advanced Practice Registered Nurse-Certified Nurse Practitioner—which allows nurse practitioners to practice and write prescriptions without securing a formal collaborative agreement with a physician. Bartolotta said in a memorandum to colleagues that the measure was aimed at providing health care services to rural areas of Pennsylvania. After the Senate vote on April 26, the bill now moves to the state House for consideration there.