

Coalition for Health Care Access

Supports full practice authority for APRNs

Texas's outdated laws prevent advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) from providing health care to the full extent of their licensure and training. Right now, APRNs must sign a delegation agreement with a collaborating physician in order to practice, even though that physician is not required to be on site where the APRN practices or see any of the APRN's patients.

This delegation agreement adds to health care bureaucracy and red tape, takes time away from patients, and comes with overhead costs for businesses and providers. Twenty-four states, the VA, and all branches of the military have repealed these laws to expand access to care to patients. **We urge Texas to do the same.**

This year, Chairwoman Stephanie Klick is introducing a full practice authority bill that would remove these barriers by

- Providing a pathway to full practice for nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives and clinical nurse specialists after at least one year of work experience under a delegating physician.
- Increasing the required continuing education requirements for APRNs from 21 to 48 hours, the equivalent of physician continuing education requirements.
- Expanding access to primary care.

The bill makes no changes to APRN scope of practice.



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