



Legislative Positions

“Title Protection Act” HB422/SB743:

- ▶ Prohibits the use of the title “nurse” or any other title, abbreviation, or designation in connection with the person’s name, occupation, or profession, that indicates or implies that the person is a practicing nurse, unless the person is actively licensed or certified by the Board of Nursing (BON). Authorizes the BON to petition any circuit or chancery court having jurisdiction to enjoin any person in violation of using the title “registered nurse”, “licensed practical nurse” or the title “nurse”.

TNA Position: SUPPORT Puts more “teeth” into the current title protection, allows for penalties for illegal use of the title nurse.

“Graduate Physicians Act” HB810/SB672:

- ▶ Establishes the process for licensure of graduate physicians. Defines "graduate physician" and specifies that a graduate physician is considered a physician assistant for purposes of the regulations of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Also specifies that graduate physicians are subject to the supervision requirements established in any controlling federal law and any supervision requirements established by the board of medical examiners.
- ▶ In order to remain licensed as a graduate physician, requires the graduate physician to successfully complete Step 3 of the United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE) no later than one year from the date that the graduate obtained a graduate physician license.
- ▶ Prohibits a graduate physician from practicing without a graduate physician collaborative practice arrangement. Defines "graduate physician collaborative practice arrangement" as an agreement between a licensed physician and a graduate physician that meets certain requirements. Establishes parameters for graduate physician collaborative arrangements.
- ▶ House Facilities, Licensure, & Regulations Subcommittee amendment 1 (004588) redefines "graduate physician collaborative practice arrangement" establishing that this is a one-year agreement that can only be renewed for a one additional one-year period.

TNA Position: OPPOSE This bill is ill-defined, speaks to primary care needs, but amends parts of the code that do not apply to primary care. There is no need for this, if APRNs were allowed to practice to full scope of practice, they could address primary care shortages in the state.

“Doctor of Medical Science Act” HB1377/SB884:

- ▶ Establishes procedure for an applicant to receive a Doctor of Medical Science license if the applicant meets the following criteria: (1) previously has been licensed and served in clinical practice for at least three years in one or more states as a physician assistant; (2) is

a graduate of a minimum two-year doctor of medical science program accredited by a regional body under the United States department of education; (3) has successfully completed the examination on the certification of doctors of medical science, with the examination determined by the board; and (4) provides satisfactory evidence of an affiliation or association with a hospital, group practice, or a list of physicians with medical expertise outside the expertise of the person seeking licensure as a doctor of medical science. For renewal of license, requires in the year preceding the application for renewal successfully completed 100 hours of continuing medical education.

TNA Position: OPPOSE This practitioner is essentially a PA with a doctorate degree, there is no need to establish a new license for this education degree. If additional amendments are passed, this would increase regulations and oversight by establishing an entirely new Board for the Doctor of Medical Science. Essentially codifying a new license for a degree at one university. If APRNs were allowed to practice to full scope of practice, they could address primary care shortages in the state.

Buprenorphine Prescribing by APRNs:

- ▶ TNA Position is to support APRNs being able to prescribe Buprenorphine in all settings without restrictions.
- ▶ SB1060/HB656 has been amended multiple times and will likely not be moved out of committee.
- ▶ If you receive questions while lobbying, you can state our position and then please refer them to Kathleen Murphy. We want to make sure we are addressing the current amendment or proposed amendment.