

State of Arkansas
93rd General Assembly
Regular Session, 2021

As Engrossed: H3/4/21
A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1198

By: Representatives Penzo, Brown, Bragg, Evans, Lowery, Miller, *Eubanks*
By: Senators D. Wallace, J. English

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF "PRACTICE OF
CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHESIA" BY REMOVING
SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO AMEND THE DEFINITION OF "PRACTICE OF
CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHESIA" BY
REMOVING SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

SECTION 1. Arkansas Code § 17-87-102(7), concerning the definition of "practice of certified registered nurse anesthesia" regarding the practice of nursing, is amended to read as follows:

(7)(A) "Practice of certified registered nurse anesthesia" means the performance for compensation of advanced nursing practices by a certified registered nurse anesthetist that are relevant to the administration of anesthetics ~~under the supervision of~~ in consultation with, but not necessarily in the presence of, a licensed physician, licensed dentist, or other person lawfully entitled to order anesthesia.

(B)(i) A certified registered nurse anesthetist may order nurses, within his or her scope of practice, to administer drugs preoperatively and postoperatively in connection with an anesthetic or other operative or invasive procedure, or both, that will be or has been provided.

(ii) A certified registered nurse anesthetist may select, obtain, and administer Schedule II drugs only during the perioperative, peri-



obstetrical, and medical procedure period.

(C) As used in this subdivision (7):

(i)(a) "Consultation" means the manner and process utilized between a certified registered nurse anesthetist and a licensed physician, licensed dentist, or other person lawfully entitled to order anesthesia performing the procedure or directly involved with the procedure when working jointly toward a common goal of providing services for the patient.

(b) In consultation, the consulting party shall remain immediately available for consultation during the delivery of anesthesia for diagnosis, consultation, and treatment of medical conditions.

(c) The hospital's administrative staff, medical staff, and governing body shall determine the guidelines on immediately available for consultation;

(ii) "Medical procedure" means a course of action intended to achieve a result in the delivery of healthcare as consulted by a licensed physician, licensed dentist, or other person lawfully entitled to order anesthesia;

(iii) "Peri-obstetrical" means preanesthetic preparation or evaluation, anesthesia induction, maintenance or emergence, or postanesthesia care of the pregnant female; and

(iv) "Perioperative" means preanesthetic preparation or evaluation, anesthesia induction, maintenance or emergence, or postanesthesia care of clients.

(D) For purposes of this subdivision (7), a licensed physician, licensed dentist, or other person lawfully entitled to order anesthesia is not liable for any act or omission of a certified registered nurse anesthetist who orders or administers anesthetics;

SECTION 2. DO NOT CODIFY. Construction.

This act does not limit and should not be interpreted to limit the right or authority, or both, of the healthcare facility to choose an anesthesia practice model.

APPROVED 03/24/2021