

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to present law.

State of Arkansas
90th General Assembly
Regular Session, 2015

As Engrossed: S2/12/15
A Bill

SENATE BILL 78

By: Senator G. Stubblefield
By: Representative Ballinger

For An Act To Be Entitled

AN ACT TO ELIMINATE PHYSICIAN SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS IN ANESTHESIA ADMINISTRATION; TO MODIFY THE DEFINITION OF "PRACTICE OF CERTIFIED REGISTERED NURSE ANESTHESIA" BY DELETING SUPERVISION LANGUAGE PREVIOUSLY REQUIRED TO MEET MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT MANDATES; TO PROVIDE IMMUNITY IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Subtitle

TO ELIMINATE PHYSICIAN SUPERVISION REQUIREMENTS IN ANESTHESIA ADMINISTRATION; AND TO PROVIDE IMMUNITY IN CERTAIN CIRCUMSTANCES.

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

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

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

SECTION 2. Arkansas Code Title 17, Chapter 95, Subchapter 1, is



amended to add an additional section to read as follows:

17-95-109. Coordination with a certified registered nurse anesthetist
- Immunity from liability.

A physician who is licensed to practice medicine by the Arkansas State
Medical Board and who renders medical services in coordination with a
certified registered nurse anesthetist who administers anesthetics without
supervision is not liable for damages resulting from an act or omission that
was the result of the administration of anesthetics by the certified
registered nurse anesthetist unless the act or omission was the result of the
physician's gross negligence, willful misconduct, or intentional act.

/s/G. Stubblefield