

**First Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 15-0864.02 Kristen Forrestal x4217

SENATE BILL 15-197

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING THE PRESCRIPTIVE AUTHORITY OF ADVANCED PRACTICE**
102 **NURSES.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/billsummaries>.)

Current law requires an advanced practice nurse to complete 1,800 hours of prescribing in a preceptorship and to complete 1,800 hours of prescribing in a mentorship in order to achieve full prescriptive authority. The bill reduces the requirement to achieve full prescriptive authority to 1,000 practice hours.

Current law requires a licensed physician to mentor an advanced

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

practice nurse. The bill allows the role of mentor to be filled by an advanced practice nurse with prescriptive authority and the same role and population focus as the applicant.

Current law prescribes the applicant's interaction with the preceptor and the mentor. The bills allows synchronous remote collaboration during the mentorship.

Current law requires completion of 1,800 hours in a preceptorship to obtain provisional prescriptive authority. The bill allows provisional prescriptive authority upon graduation and passage of the certification examination.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-38-103, **add** (1.5)
3 as follows:

4 **12-38-103. Definitions.** As used in this article, unless the context
5 otherwise requires:

6 (1.5) "ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE" MEANS AN ADVANCED
7 PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE WHO IS A PROFESSIONAL NURSE AND IS
8 LICENSED TO PRACTICE PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE, WHO OBTAINS
9 SPECIALIZED EDUCATION OR TRAINING AS PROVIDED IN THIS SECTION, AND
10 WHO APPLIES TO AND IS ACCEPTED BY THE BOARD FOR INCLUSION IN THE
11 ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTRY.

12 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-38-108, **amend**
13 (1) (f) as follows:

14 **12-38-108. Powers and duties of the board - rules.** (1) The
15 board has the following powers and duties:

16 (f) To provide by regulation for the legal recognition of nurse
17 licensees from other states AND JURISDICTIONS;

18 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-38-111.6, **amend**
19 (3) (a), (4.5) (b) introductory portion, (4.5) (b) (I), (4.5) (b) (II)
20 introductory portion, (4.5) (c) (I), (4.5) (d) (I) introductory portion, (4.5)

1 (d) (I) (B), (4.5) (e); **repeal** (4.5) (a) (V) and (4.5) (f); and **add** (4.5) (a)
2 (VI) as follows:

3 **12-38-111.6. Prescriptive authority - advanced practice nurses**

4 **- rules.** (3) (a) An advanced practice nurse may be granted authority to
5 prescribe prescription drugs and controlled substances to provide
6 treatment to clients WITHIN THE ROLE AND POPULATION FOCUS OF THE
7 ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE.

8 (4.5) (a) On or after July 1, 2010, or, if the director of the division
9 of professions and occupations adopts rules pursuant to subparagraph (II)
10 of paragraph (f) of this subsection (4.5), on or after July 2, 2010, an
11 advanced practice nurse applying for prescriptive authority shall provide
12 evidence to the board of the following:

13 ~~(V) (A) Completion of a mutually structured, post-graduate~~
14 ~~preceptorship, as defined by the board by rule, consisting of not less than~~
15 ~~one thousand eight hundred documented hours, to be completed within~~
16 ~~the immediately preceding five-year period. The preceptorship shall be~~
17 ~~conducted either with a physician or a physician and an advanced practice~~
18 ~~nurse who has prescriptive authority and experience in prescribing~~
19 ~~medications. The physician and, if applicable, advanced practice nurse~~
20 ~~-serving as a preceptor to the applicant shall be actively practicing in this~~
21 ~~state and shall have education, training, experience, and active practice~~
22 ~~that corresponds with the role and population focus of the applicant.~~

23 ~~(B) The physician and, if applicable, advanced practice nurse~~
24 ~~serv-ing as a preceptor shall not require payment or employment as a~~
25 ~~condition of entering into the preceptorship relationship, but a preceptor~~
26 ~~may request reimbursement of reasonable expenses and time spent as a~~
27 ~~result of the preceptorship relationship.~~

1 (VI) INCLUSION ON THE ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTRY PURSUANT
2 TO SECTION 12-38-111.5.

3 (b) Upon satisfaction of the requirements set forth in paragraph (a)
4 of this subsection (4.5), the board may grant provisional prescriptive
5 authority to an advanced practice nurse. The provisional prescriptive
6 authority that is granted ~~shall be~~ IS limited to those patients and
7 medications appropriate to the advanced practice nurse's role and
8 population focus. In order to retain provisional prescriptive authority and
9 obtain and retain full prescriptive authority pursuant to this subsection
10 (4.5) for patients and medications appropriate for the advanced practice
11 nurse's role and population focus, an advanced practice nurse shall satisfy
12 the following requirements:

13 (I) (A) ~~Within five years after~~ ONCE the provisional prescriptive
14 authority is granted, the advanced practice nurse ~~shall~~ MUST obtain ~~an~~
15 ~~additional~~ one thousand ~~eight hundred~~ hours of documented experience
16 in a mutually structured PRESCRIBING mentorship either with a physician
17 or with ~~a physician and~~ AN advanced practice nurse who has FULL
18 prescriptive authority and experience in prescribing medications. The
19 ~~mentorship need not be with the same persons who provided the~~
20 ~~preceptorship specified in subparagraph (V) of paragraph (a) of this~~
21 ~~subsection (4.5), but the mentor shall~~ MUST be practicing in Colorado and
22 have education, training, experience, and AN active practice that
23 corresponds with the role and population focus of the advanced practice
24 nurse.

25 (A.5) REMOTE COMMUNICATION WITH THE MENTOR IS
26 PERMISSIBLE WITHIN THE MENTORSHIP AS LONG AS THE COMMUNICATION
27 IS SYNCHRONOUS. SYNCHRONOUS COMMUNICATION DOES NOT INCLUDE

1 COMMUNICATION BY EMAIL.

2 (B) The physician ~~and, if applicable,~~ OR advanced practice nurse
3 serving as a mentor shall not require payment or employment as a
4 condition of entering into the mentorship relationship, but the mentor may
5 request reimbursement of reasonable expenses and time spent as a result
6 of the mentorship relationship.

7 (C) Upon successful completion of the mentorship period, the
8 mentor shall provide his or her signature AND ATTESTATION to verify that
9 the advanced practice nurse has successfully completed the mentorship
10 within the required period after the provisional prescriptive authority was
11 granted.

12 (D) If an advanced practice nurse with provisional prescriptive
13 authority fails to complete the mentorship required by this subparagraph
14 (I) ~~within the specified period;~~ THREE YEARS OR OTHERWISE FAILS TO
15 DEMONSTRATE COMPETENCE AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD, the
16 advanced practice nurse's provisional prescriptive authority expires for
17 failure to comply with the statutory requirements.

18 (II) ~~Within five years after obtaining provisional prescriptive~~
19 ~~authority;~~ The advanced practice nurse WITH PROVISIONAL PRESCRIPTIVE
20 AUTHORITY shall develop an articulated plan for safe prescribing that
21 documents how the advanced practice nurse intends to maintain ongoing
22 collaboration with physicians and other health care professionals in
23 connection with the advanced practice nurse's practice of prescribing
24 medication within his or her role and population focus. The articulated
25 plan shall guide the advanced practice nurse's prescriptive practice. The
26 physician or ~~physician and~~ advanced practice nurse that ~~mentored the~~
27 ~~advanced practice nurse~~ SERVES AS A MENTOR as described in

1 subparagraph (I) of this paragraph (b) shall provide his or her signature
2 AND ATTESTATION ON THE ARTICULATED PLAN to verify that the advanced
3 practice nurse has developed an articulated plan. The advanced practice
4 nurse shall retain the articulated plan on file, shall review the plan
5 annually, and shall update the plan as necessary. The articulated plan is
6 subject to review by the board, and the advanced practice nurse shall
7 provide the plan to the board upon request. If an advanced practice nurse
8 with provisional prescriptive authority fails to develop the required
9 articulated plan within ~~the specified period~~ THREE YEARS OR OTHERWISE
10 FAILS TO DEMONSTRATE COMPETENCE AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD, the
11 advanced practice nurse's provisional prescriptive authority expires for
12 failure to comply with the statutory requirements. An articulated plan
13 developed pursuant to this subparagraph (II) ~~shall~~ MUST include at least
14 the following:

15 (c) An advanced practice nurse who was granted prescriptive
16 authority prior to July 1, 2010, shall satisfy the following requirements in
17 order to retain prescriptive authority:

18 (I) ~~(A)~~ Except as provided in sub-subparagraph (B) of this
19 subparagraph (I), no later than July 1, 2011, the advanced practice nurse
20 shall develop an articulated plan as specified in subparagraph (II) of
21 paragraph (b) of this subsection (4.5); except that to verify development
22 of an articulated plan, the advanced practice nurse shall obtain the
23 signature of either a physician or AN advanced practice nurse who has
24 prescriptive authority and experience in prescribing medications, is
25 practicing in Colorado, and has education, training, experience, and active
26 practice that corresponds with the role and population focus of the
27 advanced practice nurse developing the plan. ~~If an advanced practice~~

1 ~~nurse with prescriptive authority granted prior to July 1, 2010, fails to~~
2 ~~develop the required articulated plan within the specified period, the~~
3 ~~advanced practice nurse's prescriptive authority expires for failure to~~
4 ~~comply with the statutory requirements.~~

5 ~~(B) The board shall extend the deadline for an advanced practice~~
6 ~~nurse to develop an articulated plan if the advanced practice nurse~~
7 ~~satisfies the requirements of this sub-subparagraph (B), but in no event~~
8 ~~shall the board extend the deadline beyond September 30, 2012. Prior to~~
9 ~~September 30, 2012, an advanced practice nurse seeking a deadline~~
10 ~~extension shall submit to the board an application, the required fee, a~~
11 ~~signed verification that he or she developed an articulated plan by, or had~~
12 ~~an existing collaborative agreement with a physician on, July 1, 2011, and~~
13 ~~any other information or documentation required by the board.~~

14 ~~(d) (I) On or after July 1, 2010, or, if the director of the division~~
15 ~~of professions and occupations adopts rules pursuant to subparagraph (H)~~
16 ~~of paragraph (f) of this subsection (4.5), on or after July 2, 2010, An~~
17 ~~advanced practice nurse who has obtained prescriptive authority from~~
18 ~~another state may obtain provisional prescriptive authority in this state if~~
19 ~~the advanced practice nurse satisfies the following requirements:~~

20 ~~(B) The advanced practice nurse has three ONE thousand six~~
21 ~~hundred hours of documented experience prescribing medications~~
22 ~~VERIFIED PRESCRIBING PRACTICE HOURS INVOLVING PATIENTS AND~~
23 ~~MEDICATIONS APPROPRIATE TO THE ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE'S ROLE~~
24 ~~AND POPULATION without significant adverse prescribing issues, as~~
25 ~~determined by the board.~~

26 ~~(e) During the second year of implementation of this subsection~~
27 ~~(4.5) and rules adopted pursuant to paragraph (f) of this subsection (4.5);~~

1 The board shall conduct random audits of articulated plans to ensure
2 THAT the plans satisfy the requirements of this subsection (4.5) and rules
3 adopted pursuant to paragraph (f) of this subsection (4.5) BY THE BOARD.

4 ~~(f) (f) Except as provided in subparagraph (H) of this paragraph~~
5 ~~(f), the board shall adopt rules to implement this subsection (4.5), which~~
6 ~~rules shall take effect on July 1, 2010. The board shall consider the~~
7 ~~recommendations of the nurse-physician advisory task force for Colorado~~
8 ~~health care submitted in accordance with section 24-34-109, C.R.S.,~~
9 ~~concerning prescriptive authority of advanced practice nurses. The rules~~
10 ~~shall be complementary to rules adopted by the Colorado medical board~~
11 ~~pursuant to section 12-36-106.4.~~

12 ~~(H) (A) The director of the division of professions and~~
13 ~~occupations in the department of regulatory agencies shall review the~~
14 ~~rules adopted by the board pursuant to this paragraph (f) prior to the~~
15 ~~effective date of the rules to determine if the rules complement the rules~~
16 ~~of the Colorado medical board. If the director determines that the rules of~~
17 ~~the two boards are not complementary, the director shall adopt rules that~~
18 ~~supersede and replace the rules of the two boards regarding prescriptive~~
19 ~~authority of advanced practice nurses and collaboration between~~
20 ~~advanced practice nurses and physicians, and such THE rules shall take~~
21 ~~effect on July 2, 2010.~~

22 ~~(B) If the director determines that the two boards have adopted~~
23 ~~complementary rules regarding the prescriptive authority of advanced~~
24 ~~practice nurses and collaboration between advanced practice nurses and~~
25 ~~physicians, the director shall not adopt rules that supersede and replace~~
26 ~~the rules of the two boards, but the director shall review any amendments~~
27 ~~to those rules by either board to ensure that the rules remain~~

1 complementary. If the director determines that an amendment to the rules
2 by the state board of nursing or the Colorado medical board results in
3 rules on prescriptive authority and collaboration that are no longer
4 complementary, the amendment shall not take effect.

5 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-38-111.5, **repeal**
6 (2) as follows:

7 **12-38-111.5. Requirements for advanced practice nurse**
8 **registration - legislative declaration - definition - advanced practice**
9 **registry.** (2) ~~As used in this section, "advanced practice nurse" means a~~
10 ~~professional nurse who is licensed to practice pursuant to this article, who~~
11 ~~obtains specialized education or training as provided in this section, and~~
12 ~~who applies to and is accepted by the board for inclusion in the advanced~~
13 ~~practice registry.~~

14 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-36-106.4, **amend**
15 (1) (a) introductory portion and (1) (b); and **repeal** (4) as follows:

16 **12-36-106.4. Collaboration with advanced practice nurses with**
17 **prescriptive authority - mentorships - board rules.** (1) (a) A physician
18 licensed pursuant to this article may, and is encouraged to, serve as a
19 ~~preceptor or~~ mentor to an advanced practice nurse who is applying for
20 prescriptive authority pursuant to section 12-38-111.6 (4.5). A physician
21 who serves as a ~~preceptor or~~ mentor to an advanced practice nurse
22 seeking prescriptive authority shall:

23 (b) A physician serving as a ~~preceptor or~~ mentor to an advanced
24 practice nurse pursuant to section 12-38-111.6 (4.5) shall not require
25 payment or employment as a condition of entering into the ~~preceptorship~~
26 ~~or~~ mentorship relationship, but the physician may request reimbursement
27 of reasonable expenses and time spent as a result of the ~~preceptorship or~~

1 mentorship relationship.

2 (4) (a) ~~Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection (4);~~
3 ~~the board shall adopt rules to implement this section, which rules shall~~
4 ~~take effect on July 1, 2010. The board shall consider the~~
5 ~~recommendations of the nurse-physician advisory task force for Colorado~~
6 ~~health care submitted in accordance with section 24-34-109, C.R.S.,~~
7 ~~concerning the role of physicians in collaborating with advanced practice~~
8 ~~nurses with prescriptive authority. The rules shall be complementary to~~
9 ~~rules adopted by the state board of nursing pursuant to section~~
10 ~~12-38-111.6 (4.5) (f) (I).~~

11 (b) (I) ~~The director of the division of professions and occupations~~
12 ~~in the department of regulatory agencies shall review the rules adopted by~~
13 ~~the board pursuant to this subsection (4) to determine if the rules~~
14 ~~complement the rules of the state board of nursing. If the director~~
15 ~~determines that the rules of the two boards are not complementary, the~~
16 ~~director shall adopt rules that supersede and replace the rules of the two~~
17 ~~boards regarding prescriptive authority of advanced practice nurses and~~
18 ~~collaboration between advanced practice nurses and physicians, and such~~
19 ~~rules shall take effect on July 2, 2010.~~

20 (H) ~~If the director determines that the two boards have adopted~~
21 ~~complementary rules regarding the prescriptive authority of advanced~~
22 ~~practice nurses and collaboration between advanced practice nurses and~~
23 ~~physicians, the director shall not adopt rules that supersede and replace~~
24 ~~the rules of the two boards, but the director shall review any amendments~~
25 ~~to those rules by either board to ensure that the rules remain~~
26 ~~complementary. If the director determines that an amendment to the rules~~
27 ~~by the Colorado medical board or the state board of nursing results in~~

1 ~~rules on prescriptive authority and collaboration that are no longer~~
2 ~~complementary, the amendment shall not take effect.~~

3 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-38-117, **add** (1)
4 (bb) as follows:

5 **12-38-117. Grounds for discipline.** (1) "Grounds for discipline",
6 as used in this article, means any action by any person who:

7 (bb) HAS VERIFIED BY SIGNATURE THE ARTICULATED PLAN
8 DEVELOPED BY AN ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE PURSUANT TO SECTIONS
9 12-36-106.4 AND 12-38-111.6 (4.5) IF THE ARTICULATED PLAN FAILS TO
10 COMPLY WITH THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 12-38-111.6(4.5) (b) (II);

11 **SECTION 7. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
12 takes effect September 1, 2015; except that, if a referendum petition is
13 filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V of the state constitution against
14 this act or an item, section, or part of this act within the ninety-day period
15 after final adjournment of the general assembly, then the act, item,
16 section, or part will not take effect unless approved by the people at the
17 general election to be held in November 2016 and, in such case, will take
18 effect on the date of the official declaration of the vote thereon by the
19 governor.