

1 State of Arkansas
2 93rd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2021

A Bill

SENATE BILL 199

4
5 By: Senator Bledsoe

For An Act To Be Entitled

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

Subtitle

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

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

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

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

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

34 (C)(i) In a critical access hospital, a certified
35 registered nurse anesthetist may administer anesthetics under the supervision
36 of or in consultation with a licensed physician, licensed dentist, or other



1 person lawfully entitled to order anesthesia, in accordance with the bylaws
2 and policies of the facility in which the certified registered nurse
3 anesthetist is practicing.

4 (ii) The critical access hospital shall disclose the
5 model of supervision or consultation upon request of the patient.

6 (D) As used in this subdivision (7):

7 (i)(a) "Consultation" means an agreement between a
8 licensed physician, licensed dentist, or other person lawfully entitled to
9 order anesthesia performing the procedure or directly involved with the
10 procedure and the certified registered nurse anesthetist working jointly
11 toward a common goal of providing services for the same patient.

12 (b) "Consultation" involves the joint
13 formulation, discussion, and agreement of the anesthesia plan by both
14 parties.

15 (c) In "consultation", the consulting party
16 shall remain physically present throughout the duration of the anesthetic,
17 the name of the consulting party shall be documented in the case record, and
18 the consulting party shall also sign the anesthesia record;

19 (ii) "Critical access hospital" means the same as in
20 Title 7, Division 5, Rule 10;

21 (iii) "Immediately available" means the supervising
22 or consulting physician is in a physical proximity that allows the physician
23 to re-establish direct contact with the patient to meet medical needs and any
24 urgent or emergent clinical problems;

25 (iv) "Physically present" means the supervising or
26 consulting physician remains immediately available and personally and
27 continuously available within the same healthcare institution or office; and

28 (v)(a) "Supervision" means overseeing of the
29 administration and monitoring of an anesthetic by a licensed physician,
30 licensed dentist, or other person lawfully entitled to order anesthesia.

31 (b) "Supervision" means that the licensed
32 physician, licensed dentist, or other person lawfully entitled to order
33 anesthesia shall remain physically present during the delivery of the
34 anesthetic and immediately available to manage anesthesia-related
35 complications or emergencies and assure the provision of indicated post-
36 anesthesia care;