HOUSE BILL No. 1259

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 16-42-27-1; IC 25-1-9.5-4; IC 25-27.5.

Synopsis: Physician assistants. Changes the role of a supervising physician to that of a collaborating physician. Makes conforming

changes.

Effective: July 1, 2019.

Davisson

January 10, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Public Health.



First Regular Session of the 121st General Assembly (2019)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or *this style type* reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2018 Regular and Special Session of the General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1259

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning professions and occupations.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1	SECTION 1. IC 16-42-27-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.129-2018
2	SECTION 21, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
3	JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 1. As used in this chapter, "prescriber" means any
4	of the following:
5	(1) A physician licensed under IC 25-22.5.
6	(2) A physician assistant licensed under IC 25-27.5 and granted
7	the authority to prescribe by the physician assistant's supervisory
8	collaborating physician and in accordance with IC 25-27.5-5-4.
9	(3) An advanced practice registered nurse licensed and granted
0	the authority to prescribe drugs under IC 25-23.
1	(4) The state health commissioner, if the state health
2	commissioner holds an active license under IC 25-22.5.
3	(5) A public health authority.
4	SECTION 2. IC 25-1-9.5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.129-2018
5	SECTION 25, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
6	JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 4. As used in this chapter, "prescriber" means any
7	of the following:



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1	(1) A physician licensed under IC 25-22.5.
2	(2) A physician assistant licensed under IC 25-27.5 and granted
3	the authority to prescribe by the physician assistant's supervisory
4	collaborating physician in accordance with IC 25-27.5-5-4.
5	(3) An advanced practice registered nurse licensed and granted
6	the authority to prescribe drugs under IC 25-23.
7	(4) An optometrist licensed under IC 25-24.
8	(5) A podiatrist licensed under IC 25-29.
9	SECTION 3. IC 25-27.5-1-2, AS ADDED BY P.L.90-2007.
10	SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
11	JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 2. This article grants a supervising collaborating
12	physician or physician designee the authority to delegate, as the
13	physician determines is appropriate, those tasks or services the
14	physician typically performs and is qualified to perform.
15	SECTION 4. IC 25-27.5-2-4.7 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
16	CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
17	[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 4.7. "Collaborating physician"
18	means a physician licensed by the board who collaborates with and
19	is responsible for a physician assistant.
20	SECTION 5. IC 25-27.5-2-4.9 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA
21	CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS
22	[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 4.9. (a) "Collaboration" means
23	overseeing the activities of, and accepting responsibility for, the
24	medical services rendered by a physician assistant and that one (1)
25	of the following conditions is met at all times that services are
26	rendered or tasks are performed by the physician assistant:
27	(1) The collaborating physician or the physician designee is
28	physically present at the location at which services are
29	rendered or tasks are performed by the physician assistant.
30	(2) When the collaborating physician or the physician
31	designee is not physically present at the location at which
32	services are rendered or tasks are performed by the physician
33	assistant, the collaborating physician or the physician
34	designee is able to personally ensure proper care of the
35	patient and is:
36	(A) immediately available through the use of
37	telecommunications or other electronic means; and
38	(B) able to see the person within a medically appropriate
39	time frame;
40	for consultation, if requested by the patient or the physician
41	assistant.

(b) The term includes the use of protocols, guidelines, and



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1	standing orders developed or approved by the collaborating
2	physician.
3	SECTION 6. IC 25-27.5-2-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
4	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 6. "Dependent practice"
5	means the performance of an act, a duty, or a function delegated to a
6	physician assistant by the supervising collaborating physician or
7	physician designee.
8	SECTION 7. IC 25-27.5-2-11, AS AMENDED BY P.L.3-2008,
9	SECTION 189, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS
0	[EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 11. "Physician designee" means a
1	physician:
2	(1) who:
3	(A) works in; or
4	(B) is trained in;
5	the same practice area as the practice area of the supervising
6	collaborating physician; and
7	(2) to whom responsibility for the supervision of collaboration
8	with a physician assistant is temporarily designated when the
9	supervising collaborating physician is unavailable.
20	SECTION 8. IC 25-27.5-2-13 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
21	1, 2019]. Sec. 13. "Supervising physician" means a physician licensed
22	by the board who supervises and is responsible for a physician
2.3	assistant.
.4	SECTION 9. IC 25-27.5-2-14 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
25	1, 2019]. Sec. 14. (a) "Supervision" means overseeing the activities of,
26	and accepting responsibility for, the medical services rendered by a
27	physician assistant and that the conditions set forth in subdivision (1)
28	or (2) are met at all times that services are rendered or tasks are
.9	performed by the physician assistant:
0	(1) The supervising physician or the physician designee is
1	physically present at the location at which services are rendered
2	or tasks are performed by the physician assistant.
3	(2) Both of the following apply:
4	(A) The supervising physician or the physician designee is
5	immediately available:
6	(i) through the use of telecommunications or other electronic
7	means; and
8	(ii) for consultation, including being able to see the patient
9	in person within twenty-four (24) hours if requested by the
-0	patient or the physician assistant.
-1	(B) If the supervising physician or the physician designee is
-2	not present in the same facility as the physician assistant, the



I	supervising physician or physician designee must be within a
2	reasonable travel distance from the facility to personally
3	ensure proper care of the patients.
4	(b) The term includes the use of protocols, guidelines, and standing
5	orders developed or approved by the supervising physician.
6	SECTION 10. IC 25-27.5-5-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.90-2007,
7	SECTION 23, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
8	JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 1. (a) This chapter does not apply to the practice
9	of other health care professionals set forth under IC 25-22.5-1-2(a)(1)
10	through IC 25-22.5-1-2(a)(19).
11	(b) This chapter does not allow the independent practice by a
12	physician assistant, including any of the activities of other health care
13	professionals set forth under IC 25-22.5-1-2(a)(1) through
14	IC 25-22.5-1-2(a)(19).
15	(c) (b) This chapter does not exempt a physician assistant from the
16	requirements of IC 16-41-35-29.
17	SECTION 11. IC 25-27.5-5-2, AS AMENDED BY P.L.168-2016,
18	SECTION 8, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
19	JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 2. (a) A physician assistant must engage in a
20	dependent practice with physician supervision. a collaborating
21	physician. A physician assistant may perform, under the supervision
22	of the supervising physician, a collaborative agreement, the duties
23	and responsibilities that are delegated by the supervising collaborating
24	physician and that are within the supervising collaborating physician's
25	scope of practice, including prescribing and dispensing drugs and
26	medical devices. A patient may elect to be seen, examined, and treated
27	by the supervising collaborating physician.
28	(b) If a physician assistant determines that a patient needs to be
29	examined by a physician, the physician assistant shall immediately
30	notify the supervising collaborating physician or physician designee.
31	(c) If a physician assistant notifies the supervising collaborating
32	physician that the physician should examine a patient, the supervising
33	collaborating physician shall:
34	(1) schedule an examination of the patient in a timely manner
35	unless the patient declines; or
36	(2) arrange for another physician to examine the patient.
37	(d) If a patient is subsequently examined by the supervising
38	physician or another physician because of circumstances described in
39	subsection (b) or (c), the visit must be considered as part of the same
40	encounter except for in the instance of a medically appropriate referral.
41	(e) (d) A supervising collaborating physician or physician assistant
42	who does not comply with subsections (b) through (d) and (c) is



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1	subject to discipline under IC 25-1-9.
2	(f) (e) A physician assistant's supervisory collaborative agreement
3	with a supervising collaborating physician must:
4	(1) be in writing;
5	(2) include all the tasks delegated to the physician assistant by the
6	supervising collaborating physician;
7	(3) set forth the supervisory plans collaborative agreement for
8	the physician assistant, including the emergency procedures that
9	the physician assistant must follow; and
10	(4) specify the protocol the physician assistant shall follow in
11	prescribing a drug.
12	(g) (f) The physician shall submit the supervisory collaborative
13	agreement to the board. The physician assistant may prescribe a drug
14	under the supervisory collaborative agreement unless the board denies
15	the supervisory collaborative agreement. Any amendment to the
16	supervisory collaborative agreement must be resubmitted to the board.
17	and the physician assistant may operate under any new prescriptive
18	authority under the amended supervisory collaborative agreement
19	unless the agreement has been denied by the board.
20	(h) (g) A physician or a physician assistant who violates the
21	supervisory collaborative agreement described in this section may be
22	disciplined under IC 25-1-9.
23	SECTION 12. IC 25-27.5-5-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
24	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 3. A physician assistant
25	is the agent of the supervising collaborating physician in the
26	performance of all practice related activities, including the ordering of
27	diagnostic, therapeutic, and other medical services.
28	SECTION 13. IC 25-27.5-5-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.135-2015,
29	SECTION 1, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
30	JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 4. (a) Except as provided in this section, a
31	physician assistant may prescribe, dispense, and administer drugs and
32	medical devices or services to the extent delegated by the supervising
33	collaborating physician.
34	(b) A physician assistant may not prescribe, dispense, or administer
35	ophthalmic devices, including glasses, contact lenses, and low vision
36	devices.
37	(c) A physician assistant may use or dispense only drugs prescribed
38	or approved by the supervising collaborating physician. A physician
39	assistant may not prescribe or dispense a schedule I controlled
40	substance listed in IC 35-48-2-4.

(d) A physician assistant may request, receive, and sign for professional samples and may distribute professional samples to



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1	patients if the samples are within the scope of the physician assistant's
2	prescribing privileges delegated by the supervising collaborating
3	physician.
4	(e) A physician assistant may not prescribe drugs unless the
5	physician assistant has successfully completed at least thirty (30)
6	contact hours in pharmacology from an educational program that is
7	approved by the committee.
8	(f) (e) A physician assistant may not prescribe, administer, or
9	monitor general anesthesia, regional anesthesia, or deep sedation as
10	defined by the board. A physician assistant may not administer
11	moderate sedation:
12	(1) if the moderate sedation contains agents in which the
13	manufacturer's general warning advises that the drug should be
14	administered and monitored by an individual who is:
15	(A) experienced in the use of general anesthesia; and
16	(B) not involved in the conduct of the surgical or diagnostic
17	procedure; and
18	(2) during diagnostic tests, surgical procedures, or obstetric
19	procedures unless the following conditions are met:
20	(A) A physician is physically present in the area, is
21	immediately available to assist in the management of the
22	patient, and is qualified to rescue patients from deep sedation.
23	(B) The physician assistant is qualified to rescue patients from
24	deep sedation and is competent to manage a compromised
25	airway and provide adequate oxygenation and ventilation by
26	reason of meeting the following conditions:
27	(i) The physician assistant is certified in advanced
28	cardiopulmonary life support.
29	(ii) The physician assistant has knowledge of and training in
30	the medications used in moderate sedation, including
31	recommended doses, contraindications, and adverse
32	reactions.
33	(g) Before a physician assistant may prescribe a controlled
34	substance, the physician assistant must have practiced as a physician
35	assistant for at least one thousand eight hundred (1,800) hours.
36	SECTION 14. IC 25-27.5-5-6, AS AMENDED BY P.L.135-2015,
37	SECTION 2, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
38	JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 6. (a) Except as provided in section 4(d) of this
39	chapter, a supervising collaborating physician may delegate authority
40	to a physician assistant to prescribe:
41	(1) legend drugs except as provided in section 4(c) of this chapter;
42	and



1	(2) medical devices (except ophthalmic devices, including
2	glasses, contact lenses, and low vision devices).
3	(b) Any prescribing authority delegated to a physician assistant must
4	be expressly delegated in writing by the physician assistant's
5	supervising physician, including the protocols the physician assistant
6	shall use when prescribing the drug.
7	(c) (b) A physician assistant who is delegated the authority to
8	prescribe legend drugs or medical devices must do the following:
9	(1) Enter the following on each prescription form that the
10	physician assistant uses to prescribe a legend drug or medical
11	device:
12	(A) The signature of the physician assistant.
13	(B) The initials indicating the credentials awarded to the
14	physician assistant by the NCCPA.
15	(C) The physician assistant's state license number.
16	(2) Comply with all applicable state and federal laws concerning
17	prescriptions for legend drugs and medical devices.
18	(d) (c) A supervising collaborating physician may delegate to a
19	physician assistant the authority to prescribe only legend drugs and
20	medical devices that are within the scope of practice of the licensed
21	supervising collaborating physician or the physician designee.
22	(e) (d) A physician assistant who is delegated the authority to
23	prescribe controlled substances under subsection (a) and in accordance
24	with the limitations specified in section 4(c) of this chapter must do the
25	following:
26	(1) Obtain an Indiana controlled substance registration and a
27	federal Drug Enforcement Administration registration.
28	(2) Enter the following on each prescription form that the
29	physician assistant uses to prescribe a controlled substance:
30	(A) The signature of the physician assistant.
31	(B) The initials indicating the credentials awarded to the
32	physician assistant by the NCCPA.
33	(C) The physician assistant's state license number.
34	(D) The physician assistant's federal Drug Enforcement
35	Administration (DEA) number.
36	(3) Comply with all applicable state and federal laws concerning
37	prescriptions for controlled substances.
38	(f) (e) A supervising collaborating physician may only delegate to
39	a physician assistant the authority to prescribe controlled substances:
40	(1) that may be prescribed within the scope of practice of the
41	licensed supervising collaborating physician or the physician
42	designee; and



1	(2) in an aggregate amount that does not exceed a thirty (30) day
2	supply; the prescription may be refilled by the physician assistant
3	as allowed for under the physician assistant's supervisory
4	agreement; and
5	(3) (2) in accordance with the limitations set forth in section 4(c)
6	of this chapter.
7	(g) (f) Unless the pharmacist has specific knowledge that filling the
8	prescription written by a physician assistant will violate a supervising
9	collaborative agreement or is illegal, a pharmacist shall fill a
10	prescription written by a physician assistant without requiring to see
l 1	the physician assistant's supervising collaborative agreement.
12	(h) (g) A prescription written by a physician assistant that complies
13	with this chapter does not require a cosignature from the supervising
14	collaborative physician or physician designee.
15	SECTION 15. IC 25-27.5-6-1, AS AMENDED BY P.L.135-2015,
16	SECTION 3, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
17	JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 1. (a) Supervision Collaboration by the
18	supervising collaborating physician or the physician designee must be
19	continuous but does not require the physical presence of the
20	supervising collaborating physician at the time and the place that the
21	services are rendered.
22	(b) A supervising collaborating physician or physician designee
23	shall review patient encounters not later than ten (10) business days,
24	and within a reasonable time, as established in the supervising
25	collaborative agreement, after the physician assistant has seen the
26	patient, that is appropriate for the maintenance of quality medical care.
27	(c) The supervising collaborating physician or physician designee
28	shall review within a reasonable time that is not later than ten (10)
29	business days after a patient encounter, that is appropriate for the
30	maintenance of quality medical care, at least, the following percentages
31	of the patient charts
32	(1) For the first year of practice of the physician assistant, at least
33	twenty-five percent (25%).
34	(2) for each subsequent year of practice of the physician assistant,
35	the percentage of charts that the collaborating physician or
36	physician designee determines to be reasonable for the particular
37	practice setting and level of experience of the physician assistant,
38	as stated in the supervising collaborative agreement, that is
39	appropriate for the maintenance of quality medical care.
10	(3) For the first year in which a physician assistant obtains
41	authority to prescribe a Schedule II controlled substance under
12	IC 25-27.5-5-4, fifty percent (50%) of the patient records for



1	which a Schedule II controlled substance is being dispensed or
2	prescribed.
3	However, if the physician assistant's employment changes to a different
4	practice speciality, the chart review described in subdivision (1) is
5	required for the first year.
6	SECTION 16. IC 25-27.5-6-2 IS REPEALED [EFFECTIVE JULY
7	1, 2019]. Sec. 2. A physician may enter into a supervising agreement
8	with more than four (4) physician assistants but may not supervise
9	more than four (4) physician assistants at the same time.
10	SECTION 17. IC 25-27.5-6-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
11	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 3. It is the obligation
12	of each team of collaborating physician and physician assistant to
13	ensure the following:
14	(1) That the physician assistant's scope of practice is identified.
15	(2) That delegation of medical tasks is appropriate to the
16	physician assistant's level of competence and within the
17	supervising collaborating physician's scope of practice.
18	(3) That the relationship of and access to the supervising
19	collaborating physician is defined.
20	(4) That a process for evaluation of the physician assistant's
21	performance is established and maintained.
22	SECTION 18. IC 25-27.5-6-4, AS AMENDED BY P.L.102-2013,
23	SECTION 6, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
24	JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 4. (a) A physician supervising collaborating with
25	a physician assistant must do the following:
26	(1) Be licensed under IC 25-22.5.
27	(2) Register with the board the physician's intent to supervise
28	enter into a collaborative agreement with a physician assistant.
29	(3) Submit a statement to the board that the physician will
30	exercise supervision over the physician assistant in accordance
31	with rules adopted by the board and retain professional and legal
32	responsibility for the care rendered by the physician assistant.
33	(4) (3) Not have a disciplinary action restriction that limits the
34	physician's ability to supervise collaborate with a physician
35	assistant.
36	(5) (4) Maintain a written agreement with the physician assistant
37	that states the physician will:
38	(A) exercise supervision over work in collaboration with the
39	physician assistant in accordance with any rules adopted by
40	the board; and
41	(B) retain responsibility for the care rendered by the physician



assistant.

1	The collaborative agreement must be signed by the physician and
2	physician assistant, updated annually, and made available to the
3	board upon request.
4	(6) (5) Submit to the board a list of locations that the supervising
5	collaborating physician and the physician assistant may practice.
6	The board may request additional information concerning the
7	practice locations to assist the board with considering the written
8	agreement described in subdivision (5). (4).

(b) Except as provided in this section, this chapter may not be construed to limit the employment arrangement with a supervising collaborating physician under this chapter.

SECTION 19. IC 25-27.5-6-5 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 5. (a) Before initiating practice the supervising collaborating physician and the physician assistant must submit, on forms approved by the board, the following information:

- (1) The name, the business address, and the telephone number of the supervising collaborating physician.
- (2) The name, the business address, and the telephone number of the physician assistant.
- (3) A brief description of the setting in which the physician assistant will practice.
- (4) Any other information required by the board.
- (b) A physician assistant must notify the committee of any changes or additions in practice sites or supervising collaborating physicians not more than thirty (30) days after the change or addition.

SECTION 20. IC 25-27.5-6-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 6. The supervising collaborating physician may delegate authority for the physician assistant to provide volunteer work, including charitable work and migrant health care.

SECTION 21. IC 25-27.5-6-7 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 7. If a physician assistant is employed by a physician, a group of physicians, or another legal entity, the physician assistant must be supervised by in collaboration with and be the legal responsibility of the supervising collaborating physician. The legal responsibility for the physician assistant's patient care activities are that of the supervising collaborating physician, including when the physician assistant provides care and treatment for patients in health care facilities. If a physician assistant is employed by a health care facility or other entity, the legal responsibility for the physician assistant's actions is that of the



1	supervising collaborating physician. A physician assistant employed
2	by a health care facility or entity must be supervised by in
3	collaboration with a licensed physician.
4	SECTION 22. IC 25-27.5-6-8, AS ADDED BY P.L.105-2008,
5	SECTION 54, IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE
6	JULY 1, 2019]: Sec. 8. (a) This section applies to a physician assistant:
7	(1) licensed in Indiana or licensed or authorized to practice in any
8	other state or territory of the United States; or
9	(2) credentialed as a physician assistant by a federal employer.
10	(b) As used in this section, "emergency" means an event or a
11	condition that is an emergency, a disaster, or a public health emergency
12	under IC 10-14.
13	(c) A physician assistant who responds to a need for medical care
14	created by an emergency may render care that the physician assistant
15	is able to provide without the supervision collaboration required under
16	this chapter, but with such supervision collaboration as is available.
17	(d) A physician who supervises collaborates with a physician
18	assistant providing medical care in response to an emergency is not
19	required to meet the requirements under this chapter for a supervising
20	collaborating physician.

