



State of Wisconsin
2021 - 2022 LEGISLATURE

LRB-1941/1
JPC:kjf

2021 ASSEMBLY BILL 125

March 4, 2021 - Introduced by Representatives VANDERMEER, EDMING, CONSIDINE, ANDERSON, ANDRACA, ARMSTRONG, BALDEH, DITTRICH, DOYLE, GUNDRUM, HONG, JAMES, KERKMAN, LOUDENBECK, MAGNAFICI, MILROY, MOSES, MURSAU, OLDENBURG, RAMTHUN, S. RODRIGUEZ, ROZAR, SINICKI, SKOWRONSKI, SPIROS, STEFFEN, STUBBS, SUMMERFIELD, TAUCHEN, THIESFELDT, TITTL, VRUWINK, KRUG and SPREITZER, cosponsored by Senators BERNIER, KOOYENGA, PFAFF, BALLWEG, BEWLEY, CARPENTER, COWLES, DARLING, FELZKOWSKI, JACQUE, RINGHAND, STAFSHOLT, SMITH, TESTIN and WIMBERGER. Referred to Committee on Health.

AUTHORS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

1 **AN ACT to repeal** 15.407 (2), 50.01 (4p), 252.01 (5), 448.01 (6), 448.03 (1) (b),
2 448.03 (3) (e), 448.04 (1) (f), 448.05 (5), 448.20, 448.21, 448.40 (2) (f) and 450.01
3 (15r); **to renumber** 448.970, subchapter VIII of chapter 448 [precedes 448.980]
4 and subchapter IX of chapter 448 [precedes 448.985]; **to amend** 15.08 (1m) (b),
5 15.085 (1m) (b), 16.417 (1) (e) 3m., 46.03 (44), 48.981 (2m) (b) 1., 49.45 (9r) (a)
6 7. a., 50.08 (2), 50.39 (3), 55.14 (8) (b), 69.01 (6g), 70.47 (8) (intro.), 97.67 (5m)
7 (a) 3., 118.2925 (1) (f), 146.81 (1) (d), 146.82 (3) (a), 146.89 (1) (r) 1., 146.997 (1)
8 (d) 5., 154.01 (3) (intro.), 154.03 (2), 154.07 (1) (a) (intro.), 165.77 (1) (a), 255.07
9 (1) (d), 343.16 (5) (a), 440.035 (2m) (b), 440.035 (2m) (c) 1. (intro.), 448.015 (4)
10 (am) 2., 448.02 (1), 448.03 (2) (a), 448.03 (2) (e), 448.03 (2) (k), 448.03 (5) (b),
11 448.035 (2) to (4), 448.037 (2) (a) (intro.) and (b) and (3), 448.62 (7), 448.695 (4)
12 (a) and (b), 450.01 (16) (hm) 3., 450.11 (1), 450.11 (1g) (b), 450.11 (1i) (a) 1.,
13 450.11 (1i) (b) 2. c., 450.11 (1i) (c) 2., 450.11 (8) (b), 462.02 (2) (e), 462.04, 961.01
14 (19) (a) and 971.14 (4) (a); and **to create** 15.406 (7), 49.45 (9r) (a) 7. e., 69.18 (1)

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 (ck), 146.81 (1) (eu), subchapter VIII of chapter 448 [precedes 448.971], 450.11
2 (li) (b) 2. cm., 450.11 (8) (f) and 990.01 (27s) of the statutes; **relating to:**
3 regulation of physician assistants, creating a Physician Assistant Affiliated
4 Credentialing Board, extending the time limit for emergency rule procedures,
5 providing an exemption from emergency rule procedures, granting
6 rule-making authority, and providing a penalty.

Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau

This bill makes changes with respect to the licensure, regulation, and practice of physician assistants (PAs).

Under current law, PAs are defined as individuals who are licensed to provide medical care with physician supervision and direction. The Medical Examining Board licenses and regulates PAs as well as physicians and certain other professions. The Medical Examining Board is composed of ten physicians and three public members and is authorized to promulgate rules establishing licensing and practice standards for PAs. However, the Podiatry Affiliated Credentialing Board has the authority to establish practice standards for PAs practicing under podiatrists.

This bill creates the Physician Assistant Affiliated Credentialing Board attached to the Medical Examining Board. The new board is composed of eight PAs and one public member. In addition, the bill makes various changes to the licensure, regulation, and practice of PAs, including all of the following:

1. Instead of requiring that a PA practice under the supervision and direction of a physician, requires, subject to certain exceptions, that a PA who provides care to patients maintain and provide to the board upon request either 1) evidence that, pursuant to the PA's employment, there is a physician who is primarily responsible for the overall direction and management of the PA's professional activities and for assuring that the services provided by the PA are medically appropriate or 2) a written collaborative agreement with a physician that must describe the PA's scope of practice and include other information as required by the board. However, the bill provides that a PA is individually and independently responsible for the quality of the care he or she renders. The bill maintains the current requirements for PAs practicing under podiatrists and the authority of the Podiatry Affiliated Credentialing Board to establish practice standards for PAs practicing under podiatrists.

2. Defines a PA's practice similarly to the definition of the practice of medicine and surgery for purposes of physician licensure under current law. The bill also explicitly provides that a PA may prescribe, dispense, and administer drugs and may serve as a primary or specialty care provider. The bill requires a PA to limit his or her practice to the scope of his or her experience, education, and training, and retains a number of current law limitations on the practice of PAs.

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

3. Includes a number of additional provisions with respect to the obligations of PAs. These include a requirement that a PA have in effect malpractice liability insurance coverage when practicing, subject to certain exceptions and other provisions.

4. Establishes licensure requirements for PAs, which differ in a number of respects from the requirements under current law, including that PAs submit additional information, including an employment history, with a licensure application. Under the bill, the board must require continuing education for PAs. Currently, PAs are not required to complete continuing education.

5. Specifies various grounds for professional discipline of a PA by the board and allows the board to impose professional discipline consistent with other professions.

Because this bill creates a new crime or revises a penalty for an existing crime, the Joint Review Committee on Criminal Penalties may be requested to prepare a report.

For further information see the state fiscal estimate, which will be printed as an appendix to this bill.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

1 **SECTION 1.** 15.08 (1m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 15.08 **(1m)** (b) The public members of the chiropractic examining board, the
3 dentistry examining board, the hearing and speech examining board, the medical
4 examining board, the physical therapy examining board, the perfusionists
5 examining council, the respiratory care practitioners examining council and council
6 ~~on physician assistants~~, the board of nursing, the nursing home administrator
7 examining board, the veterinary examining board, the optometry examining board,
8 the pharmacy examining board, the marriage and family therapy, professional
9 counseling, and social work examining board, the psychology examining board, and
10 the radiography examining board shall not be engaged in any profession or
11 occupation concerned with the delivery of physical or mental health care.

12 **SECTION 2.** 15.085 (1m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 2**

1 15.085 **(1m)** (b) The public members of the podiatry affiliated credentialing
2 board ~~or, the~~ occupational therapists affiliated credentialing board, ~~and the~~
3 physician assistant affiliated credentialing board shall not be engaged in any
4 profession or occupation concerned with the delivery of physical or mental health
5 care.

6 **SECTION 3.** 15.406 (7) of the statutes is created to read:

7 15.406 (7) PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT AFFILIATED CREDENTIALING BOARD. There is
8 created in the department of safety and professional services, attached to the medical
9 examining board, a physician assistant affiliated credentialing board consisting of
10 the following members appointed for staggered 4-year terms:

11 (a) Eight physician assistants licensed under subch. VIII of ch. 448.

12 (b) One public member.

13 **SECTION 4.** 15.407 (2) of the statutes is repealed.

14 **SECTION 5.** 16.417 (1) (e) 3m. of the statutes is amended to read:

15 16.417 **(1)** (e) 3m. A physician assistant who is licensed under s. ~~448.04 (1) (f)~~
16 448.974.

17 **SECTION 6.** 46.03 (44) of the statutes is amended to read:

18 46.03 **(44)** SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE TREATMENT INFORMATION. Prepare and
19 keep current an information sheet to be distributed to a patient by a physician,
20 physician assistant, or certified advanced practice nurse prescriber providing
21 expedited partner therapy to that patient under s. 448.035 or 448.9725. The
22 information sheet shall include information about sexually transmitted diseases and
23 their treatment and about the risk of drug allergies. The information sheet shall also
24 include a statement advising a person with questions about the information to

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 contact his or her physician, pharmacist, or local health department, as defined in
2 s. 250.01 (4).

3 **SECTION 7.** 48.981 (2m) (b) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

4 48.981 **(2m)** (b) 1. "Health care provider" means a physician, as defined under
5 s. 448.01 (5), a physician assistant, as defined under s. ~~448.01 (6)~~ 448.971 (2), or a
6 nurse holding a license under s. 441.06 (1) or a license under s. 441.10.

7 **SECTION 8.** 49.45 (9r) (a) 7. a. of the statutes is amended to read:

8 49.45 **(9r)** (a) 7. a. A physician ~~or physician assistant~~ licensed under subch. II
9 of ch. 448.

10 **SECTION 9.** 49.45 (9r) (a) 7. e. of the statutes is created to read:

11 49.45 **(9r)** (a) 7. e. A physician assistant licensed under subch. VIII of ch. 448.

12 **SECTION 10.** 50.01 (4p) of the statutes is repealed.

13 **SECTION 11.** 50.08 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 50.08 **(2)** A physician, an advanced practice nurse prescriber certified under
15 s. 441.16 (2), or a physician assistant ~~licensed under ch. 448~~, who prescribes a
16 psychotropic medication to a nursing home resident who has degenerative brain
17 disorder shall notify the nursing home if the prescribed medication has a boxed
18 warning under 21 CFR 201.57.

19 **SECTION 12.** 50.39 (3) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 50.39 **(3)** Facilities governed by ss. 45.50, 48.62, 49.70, 49.72, 50.02, 51.09, and
21 252.10, juvenile correctional facilities as defined in s. 938.02 (10p), correctional
22 institutions governed by the department of corrections under s. 301.02, and the
23 offices and clinics of persons licensed to treat the sick under chs. 446, 447, and 448
24 are exempt from ss. 50.32 to 50.39. Sections 50.32 to 50.39 do not abridge the rights
25 of the medical examining board, physician assistant affiliated credentialing board,

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 12**

1 physical therapy examining board, podiatry affiliated credentialing board, dentistry
2 examining board, pharmacy examining board, chiropractic examining board, and
3 board of nursing in carrying out their statutory duties and responsibilities.

4 **SECTION 13.** 55.14 (8) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 55.14 (8) (b) Order the individual to comply with the treatment plan under par.
6 (a). The order shall provide that if the individual fails to comply with provisions of
7 the treatment plan that require the individual to take psychotropic medications, the
8 medications may be administered involuntarily with consent of the guardian. The
9 order shall specify the methods of involuntary administration of psychotropic
10 medication to which the guardian may consent. An order authorizing the forcible
11 restraint of an individual shall specify that a person licensed under s. 441.06, 441.10,
12 ~~or 448.05 (2) or (5),~~ or 448.974 shall be present at all times that psychotropic
13 medication is administered in this manner and shall require the person or facility
14 using forcible restraint to maintain records stating the date of each administration,
15 the medication administered, and the method of forcible restraint utilized.

16 **SECTION 14.** 69.01 (6g) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 69.01 (6g) "Date of death" means the date that a person is pronounced dead by
18 a physician, coroner, deputy coroner, medical examiner, deputy medical examiner,
19 physician assistant, or hospice nurse.

20 **SECTION 15.** 69.18 (1) (ck) of the statutes is created to read:

21 69.18 (1) (ck) For purposes of preparation of the certificate of death and in
22 accordance with accepted medical standards, a physician assistant who is directly
23 involved with the care of a patient who dies may pronounce the date, time, and place
24 of the patient's death.

25 **SECTION 16.** 70.47 (8) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 70.47 (8) HEARING. (intro.) The board shall hear upon oath all persons who
2 appear before it in relation to the assessment. Instead of appearing in person at the
3 hearing, the board may allow the property owner, or the property owner's
4 representative, at the request of either person, to appear before the board, under
5 oath, by telephone or to submit written statements, under oath, to the board. The
6 board shall hear upon oath, by telephone, all ill or disabled persons who present to
7 the board a letter from a physician, osteopath, physician assistant, as defined in s.
8 448.01 (6), or advanced practice nurse prescriber certified under s. 441.16 (2) that
9 confirms their illness or disability. At the request of the property owner or the
10 property owner's representative, the board may postpone and reschedule a hearing
11 under this subsection, but may not postpone and reschedule a hearing more than
12 once during the same session for the same property. The board at such hearing shall
13 proceed as follows:

14 **SECTION 17.** 97.67 (5m) (a) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

15 97.67 (5m) (a) 3. A physician assistant licensed under subch. II VIII of ch. 448.

16 **SECTION 18.** 118.2925 (1) (f) of the statutes is amended to read:

17 118.2925 (1) (f) "Physician assistant" means a person licensed under s. 448.04
18 (1)-(f) 448.974.

19 **SECTION 19.** 146.81 (1) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 146.81 (1) (d) A physician, ~~physician assistant~~, perfusionist, or respiratory care
21 practitioner licensed or certified under subch. II of ch. 448.

22 **SECTION 20.** 146.81 (1) (eu) of the statutes is created to read:

23 146.81 (1) (eu) A physician assistant licensed under subch. VIII of ch. 448.

24 **SECTION 21.** 146.82 (3) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 21**

1 146.82 (3) (a) Notwithstanding sub. (1), a physician, a physician assistant, as
2 defined in s. 448.01 (6), or an advanced practice nurse prescriber certified under s.
3 441.16 (2) who treats a patient whose physical or mental condition in the physician's,
4 physician assistant's, or advanced practice nurse prescriber's judgment affects the
5 patient's ability to exercise reasonable and ordinary control over a motor vehicle may
6 report the patient's name and other information relevant to the condition to the
7 department of transportation without the informed consent of the patient.

8 **SECTION 22.** 146.89 (1) (r) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

9 146.89 (1) (r) 1. Licensed as a physician under ch. 448, a dentist or dental
10 hygienist under ch. 447, a registered nurse, practical nurse, or nurse-midwife under
11 ch. 441, an optometrist under ch. 449, a physician assistant under subch. VIII of ch.
12 448, a pharmacist under ch. 450, a chiropractor under ch. 446, a podiatrist under
13 subch. IV of ch. 448, or a physical therapist under subch. III of ch. 448.

14 **SECTION 23.** 146.997 (1) (d) 5. of the statutes is amended to read:

15 146.997 (1) (d) 5. An occupational therapist, occupational therapy assistant,
16 physician assistant or respiratory care practitioner licensed or certified under ch.
17 448.

18 **SECTION 24.** 154.01 (3) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 154.01 (3) (intro.) "Health care professional" means ~~who is, or who holds a~~
20 ~~compact privilege under subch. IX of ch. 448~~ any of the following:

21 **SECTION 25.** 154.03 (2) of the statutes is amended to read:

22 154.03 (2) The department shall prepare and provide copies of the declaration
23 and accompanying information for distribution in quantities to persons licensed,
24 certified, or registered under ch. 441, 448, or 455, persons who hold a compact
25 privilege under subch. ~~IX~~ X of ch. 448, hospitals, nursing homes, county clerks and

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 local bar associations and individually to private persons. The department shall
2 include, in information accompanying the declaration, at least the statutory
3 definitions of terms used in the declaration, statutory restrictions on who may be
4 witnesses to a valid declaration, a statement explaining that valid witnesses acting
5 in good faith are statutorily immune from civil or criminal liability, an instruction
6 to potential declarants to read and understand the information before completing the
7 declaration and a statement explaining that an instrument may, but need not be,
8 filed with the register in probate of the declarant's county of residence. The
9 department may charge a reasonable fee for the cost of preparation and distribution.
10 The declaration distributed by the department of health services shall be easy to
11 read, the type size may be no smaller than 10 point, and the declaration shall be in
12 the following form, setting forth on the first page the wording before the
13 ATTENTION statement and setting forth on the 2nd page the ATTENTION
14 statement and remaining wording:

15 **DECLARATION TO HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS**

16 **(WISCONSIN LIVING WILL)**

17 I,....., being of sound mind, voluntarily state my desire that my dying not be
18 prolonged under the circumstances specified in this document. Under those
19 circumstances, I direct that I be permitted to die naturally. If I am unable to give
20 directions regarding the use of life-sustaining procedures or feeding tubes, I intend
21 that my family and physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered
22 nurse honor this document as the final expression of my legal right to refuse medical
23 or surgical treatment.

24 1. If I have a **TERMINAL CONDITION**, as determined by a physician,
25 physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse who has personally

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 25**

1 examined me, and if a physician who has also personally examined me agrees with
2 that determination, I do not want my dying to be artificially prolonged and I do not
3 want life-sustaining procedures to be used. In addition, the following are my
4 directions regarding the use of feeding tubes:

5 YES, I want feeding tubes used if I have a terminal condition.

6 NO, I do not want feeding tubes used if I have a terminal condition.

7 If you have not checked either box, feeding tubes will be used.

8 2. If I am in a **PERSISTENT VEGETATIVE STATE**, as determined by a
9 physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse who has
10 personally examined me, and if a physician who has also personally examined me
11 agrees with that determination, the following are my directions regarding the use
12 of life-sustaining procedures:

13 YES, I want life-sustaining procedures used if I am in a persistent
14 vegetative state.

15 NO, I do not want life-sustaining procedures used if I am in a persistent
16 vegetative state.

17 If you have not checked either box, life-sustaining procedures will be used.

18 3. If I am in a **PERSISTENT VEGETATIVE STATE**, as determined by a
19 physician, physician assistant, or advanced practice registered nurse who has
20 personally examined me, and if a physician who has also personally examined me
21 agrees with that determination, the following are my directions regarding the use
22 of feeding tubes:

23 YES, I want feeding tubes used if I am in a persistent vegetative state.

24 NO, I do not want feeding tubes used if I am in a persistent vegetative state.

25 If you have not checked either box, feeding tubes will be used.

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

SECTION 25

1 or withdrawing life-sustaining procedures or feeding tubes would cause the patient
2 pain or reduced comfort and that the pain or discomfort cannot be alleviated through
3 pain relief measures. If the patient's stated desires are that life-sustaining
4 procedures or feeding tubes be used, this directive must be followed.

5 3. If you feel that you cannot comply with this document, you must make a good
6 faith attempt to transfer the patient to another physician, physician assistant, or
7 advanced practice registered nurse who will comply. Refusal or failure to make a
8 good faith attempt to do so constitutes unprofessional conduct.

9 4. If you know that the patient is pregnant, this document has no effect during
10 her pregnancy.

11 * * * * *

12 The person making this living will may use the following space to record the
13 names of those individuals and health care providers to whom he or she has given
14 copies of this document:

15

16

17

18 **SECTION 26.** 154.07 (1) (a) (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

19 154.07 (1) (a) (intro.) No health care professional, inpatient health care facility
20 or person licensed, certified, or registered under ch. 441, 448, or 455, or a person who
21 holds a compact privilege under subch. ~~IX~~ X of ch. 448 acting under the direction of
22 a health care professional may be held criminally or civilly liable, or charged with
23 unprofessional conduct, for any of the following:

24 **SECTION 27.** 165.77 (1) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 165.77 (1) (a) “Health care professional” means a person licensed, certified, or
2 registered under ch. 441, 448, or 455 or a person who holds a compact privilege under
3 subch. ~~IX~~ X of ch. 448.

4 **SECTION 28.** 252.01 (5) of the statutes is repealed.

5 **SECTION 29.** 255.07 (1) (d) of the statutes is amended to read:

6 255.07 (1) (d) “Health care practitioner” means a physician, a physician
7 assistant ~~licensed under s. 448.04 (1) (f)~~, or an advanced practice nurse who is
8 certified to issue prescription orders under s. 441.16.

9 **SECTION 30.** 343.16 (5) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

10 343.16 (5) (a) The secretary may require any applicant for a license or any
11 licensed operator to submit to a special examination by such persons or agencies as
12 the secretary may direct to determine incompetency, physical or mental disability,
13 disease, or any other condition that might prevent such applicant or licensed person
14 from exercising reasonable and ordinary control over a motor vehicle. If the
15 department requires the applicant to submit to an examination, the applicant shall
16 pay for the examination. If the department receives an application for a renewal or
17 duplicate license after voluntary surrender under s. 343.265 or receives a report from
18 a physician, physician assistant, as defined in s. 448.01 (6), advanced practice nurse
19 prescriber certified under s. 441.16 (2), or optometrist under s. 146.82 (3), or if the
20 department has a report of 2 or more arrests within a one-year period for any
21 combination of violations of s. 346.63 (1) or (5) or a local ordinance in conformity with
22 s. 346.63 (1) or (5) or a law of a federally recognized American Indian tribe or band
23 in this state in conformity with s. 346.63 (1) or (5), or s. 346.63 (1m), 1985 stats., or
24 s. 346.63 (2) or (6) or 940.25, or s. 940.09 where the offense involved the use of a
25 vehicle, the department shall determine, by interview or otherwise, whether the

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 30**

1 operator should submit to an examination under this section. The examination may
2 consist of an assessment. If the examination indicates that education or treatment
3 for a disability, disease or condition concerning the use of alcohol, a controlled
4 substance or a controlled substance analog is appropriate, the department may order
5 a driver safety plan in accordance with s. 343.30 (1q). If there is noncompliance with
6 assessment or the driver safety plan, the department shall revoke the person's
7 operating privilege in the manner specified in s. 343.30 (1q) (d).

8 **SECTION 31.** 440.035 (2m) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

9 440.035 **(2m)** (b) The medical examining board, the physician assistant
10 affiliated credentialing board, the podiatry affiliated credentialing board, the board
11 of nursing, the dentistry examining board, or the optometry examining board may
12 issue guidelines regarding best practices in prescribing controlled substances for
13 persons credentialed by that board who are authorized to prescribe controlled
14 substances.

15 **SECTION 32.** 440.035 (2m) (c) 1. (intro.) of the statutes is amended to read:

16 440.035 **(2m)** (c) 1. (intro.) The medical examining board, the physician
17 assistant affiliated credentialing board, the podiatry affiliated credentialing board,
18 the board of nursing, the dentistry examining board, and the optometry examining
19 board shall, by November 1, ~~2018~~, and ~~annually thereafter~~ of each year, submit a
20 report to the persons specified in subd. 2. that does all of the following:

21 **SECTION 33.** 448.01 (6) of the statutes is repealed.

22 **SECTION 34.** 448.015 (4) (am) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

23 448.015 **(4)** (am) 2. Any act by a physician ~~or physician assistant~~ in violation
24 of ch. 450 or 961.

25 **SECTION 35.** 448.02 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 448.02 (1) LICENSE. The board may grant licenses, including various classes
2 of temporary licenses, to practice medicine and surgery, to practice as an
3 administrative physician, to practice perfusion, and to practice as an
4 anesthesiologist assistant, ~~and to practice as a physician assistant.~~

5 **SECTION 36.** 448.03 (1) (b) of the statutes is repealed.

6 **SECTION 37.** 448.03 (2) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

7 448.03 (2) (a) Any person lawfully practicing within the scope of a license,
8 permit, registration, certificate or certification granted to practice midwifery under
9 subch. XIII of ch. 440, to practice professional or practical nursing or
10 nurse-midwifery under ch. 441, to practice chiropractic under ch. 446, to practice
11 dentistry or dental hygiene under ch. 447, to practice optometry under ch. 449, to
12 practice as a physician assistant under subch. VIII, to practice acupuncture under
13 ch. 451 or under any other statutory provision, or as otherwise provided by statute.

14 **SECTION 38.** 448.03 (2) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

15 448.03 (2) (e) Any person other than ~~a physician assistant or an~~
16 anesthesiologist assistant who is providing patient services as directed, supervised
17 and inspected by a physician who has the power to direct, decide and oversee the
18 implementation of the patient services rendered.

19 **SECTION 39.** 448.03 (2) (k) of the statutes is amended to read:

20 448.03 (2) (k) Any persons, other than ~~physician assistants,~~ anesthesiologist
21 assistants, or perfusionists, who assist physicians.

22 **SECTION 40.** 448.03 (3) (e) of the statutes is repealed.

23 **SECTION 41.** 448.03 (5) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

24 448.03 (5) (b) No physician ~~or physician assistant~~ shall be liable for any civil
25 damages for either of the following:

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 41**

1 1. Reporting in good faith to the department of transportation under s. 146.82
2 (3) a patient's name and other information relevant to a physical or mental condition
3 of the patient which in the physician's ~~or physician assistant's~~ judgment impairs the
4 patient's ability to exercise reasonable and ordinary control over a motor vehicle.

5 2. In good faith, not reporting to the department of transportation under s.
6 146.82 (3) a patient's name and other information relevant to a physical or mental
7 condition of the patient which in the physician's ~~or physician assistant's~~ judgment
8 does not impair the patient's ability to exercise reasonable and ordinary control over
9 a motor vehicle.

10 **SECTION 42.** 448.035 (2) to (4) of the statutes are amended to read:

11 448.035 **(2)** Notwithstanding the requirements of s. 448.30, a physician,
12 ~~physician assistant,~~ or certified advanced practice nurse prescriber may provide
13 expedited partner therapy if the patient is diagnosed as infected with a chlamydial
14 infection, gonorrhea, or trichomoniasis and the patient has had sexual contact with
15 a sexual partner during which the chlamydial infection, gonorrhea, or
16 trichomoniasis may have been transmitted to or from the sexual partner. The
17 ~~physician, physician assistant,~~ or certified advanced practice nurse prescriber shall
18 attempt to obtain the name of the patient's sexual partner. A prescription order for
19 an antimicrobial drug prepared under this subsection shall include the name and
20 address of the patient's sexual partner, if known. If the physician, ~~physician~~
21 ~~assistant,~~ or certified advanced practice nurse prescriber is unable to obtain the
22 name of the patient's sexual partner, the prescription order shall include, in ordinary
23 bold-faced capital letters, the words, "expedited partner therapy" or the letters
24 "EPT."

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 (3) The physician, ~~physician assistant~~, or certified advanced practice nurse
2 prescriber shall provide the patient with a copy of the information sheet prepared by
3 the department of health services under s. 46.03 (44) and shall request that the
4 patient give the information sheet to the person with whom the patient had sexual
5 contact.

6 (4) (a) Except as provided in par. (b), a physician, ~~physician assistant~~, or
7 certified advanced practice nurse prescriber is immune from civil liability for injury
8 to or the death of a person who takes any antimicrobial drug if the antimicrobial drug
9 is prescribed, dispensed, or furnished under this section and if expedited partner
10 therapy is provided as specified under this section.

11 (b) The immunity under par. (a) does not extend to the donation, distribution,
12 furnishing, or dispensing of an antimicrobial drug by a physician, ~~physician
13 assistant~~, or certified advanced practice nurse prescriber whose act or omission
14 involves reckless, wanton, or intentional misconduct.

15 **SECTION 43.** 448.037 (2) (a) (intro.) and (b) and (3) of the statutes are amended
16 to read:

17 448.037 (2) (a) (intro.) A physician ~~or physician assistant~~ may do any of the
18 following:

19 (b) A physician ~~or physician assistant~~ who prescribes or delivers an opioid
20 antagonist under par. (a) 1. shall ensure that the person to whom the opioid
21 antagonist is prescribed has or has the capacity to provide the knowledge and
22 training necessary to safely administer the opioid antagonist to an individual
23 undergoing an opioid-related overdose and that the person demonstrates the
24 capacity to ensure that any individual to whom the person further delivers the opioid
25 antagonist has or receives that knowledge and training.

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT AFFILIATED
CREDENTIALING BOARD

1
2
3 **448.971 Definitions.** In this subchapter, unless the context requires
4 otherwise:

5 (1) “Board” means the physician assistant affiliated credentialing board.

6 (2) “Physician assistant” means a person licensed under this subchapter.

7 (3) “Podiatrist” has the meaning given in s. 448.60 (3).

8 (4) “Podiatry” has the meaning given in s. 448.60 (4).

9 **448.972 License required; exceptions.** (1) Except as provided in subs. (2)
10 and (3), no person may represent himself or herself as a “PA” or “physician assistant,”
11 use or assume the title “PA” or “physician assistant,” or append to the person’s name
12 the words or letters “physician assistant,” “PA,” “PA-C,” or any other titles, letters,
13 or designation that represents or may tend to represent the person as a physician
14 assistant, unless he or she is licensed by the board under this subchapter.

15 (2) Subsection (1) does not apply with respect to any of the following:

16 (a) An individual employed and duly credentialed as a physician assistant or
17 physician associate by the federal government while performing duties incident to
18 that employment, unless a license under this subchapter is required by the federal
19 government.

20 (b) A person who satisfies the requirement under s. 448.974 (1) (a) 3. but who
21 is not licensed under this subchapter. This paragraph does not allow such a person
22 to practice medicine and surgery in violation of s. 448.03 (1) (a) or to practice podiatry
23 in violation of s. 448.61.

24 (3) A student who is enrolled in an accredited physician assistant educational
25 program may use the title “physician assistant student,” “PA student,” or “PA-S.”

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 52**

1 **448.9725 Expedited partner therapy. (1)** In this section:

2 (b) “Antimicrobial drug” has the meaning given in s. 448.035 (1) (b).

3 (c) “Expedited partner therapy” has the meaning given in s. 448.035 (1) (c).

4 **(2)** Notwithstanding the requirements of s. 448.9785, a physician assistant
5 may provide expedited partner therapy if a patient is diagnosed as infected with a
6 chlamydial infection, gonorrhea, or trichomoniasis and the patient has had sexual
7 contact with a sexual partner during which the chlamydial infection, gonorrhea, or
8 trichomoniasis may have been transmitted to or from the sexual partner. The
9 physician assistant shall attempt to obtain the name of the patient’s sexual partner.
10 A prescription order for an antimicrobial drug prepared under this subsection shall
11 include the name and address of the patient’s sexual partner, if known. If the
12 physician assistant is unable to obtain the name of the patient’s sexual partner, the
13 prescription order shall include, in ordinary, bold-faced capital letters, the words,
14 “expedited partner therapy” or the letters “EPT.”

15 **(3)** The physician assistant shall provide the patient with a copy of the
16 information sheet prepared by the department of health services under s. 46.03 (44)
17 and shall request that the patient give the information sheet to the person with
18 whom the patient had sexual contact.

19 **(4) (a)** Except as provided in par. (b), a physician assistant is immune from civil
20 liability for injury to or the death of a person who takes any antimicrobial drug if the
21 antimicrobial drug is prescribed, dispensed, or furnished under this section and if
22 expedited partner therapy is provided as specified under this section.

23 (b) The immunity under par. (a) does not extend to the donation, distribution,
24 furnishing, or dispensing of an antimicrobial drug by a physician assistant whose act
25 or omission involves reckless, wanton, or intentional misconduct.

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 **448.9727 Prescriptions for and delivery of opioid antagonists. (1)** In
2 this section:

3 (a) “Administer” has the meaning given in s. 450.01 (1).

4 (b) “Deliver” has the meaning given in s. 450.01 (5).

5 (c) “Dispense” has the meaning given in s. 450.01 (7).

6 (d) “Opioid antagonist” has the meaning given in s. 450.01 (13v).

7 (e) “Opioid-related drug overdose” has the meaning given in s. 256.40 (1) (d).

8 (f) “Standing order” has the meaning given in s. 450.01 (21p).

9 **(2)** (a) A physician assistant may do any of the following:

10 1. Prescribe an opioid antagonist to a person in a position to assist an individual
11 at risk of undergoing an opioid-related drug overdose and may deliver the opioid
12 antagonist to that person. A prescription order under this subdivision need not
13 specify the name and address of the individual to whom the opioid antagonist will
14 be administered, but shall instead specify the name of the person to whom the opioid
15 antagonist is prescribed.

16 2. Issue a standing order to one or more persons authorizing the dispensing of
17 an opioid antagonist.

18 (b) A physician assistant who prescribes or delivers an opioid antagonist under
19 par. (a) 1. shall ensure that the person to whom the opioid antagonist is prescribed
20 has or has the capacity to provide the knowledge and training necessary to safely
21 administer the opioid antagonist to an individual undergoing an opioid-related
22 overdose and that the person demonstrates the capacity to ensure that any
23 individual to whom the person further delivers the opioid antagonist has or receives
24 that knowledge and training.

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 52**

1 **(3)** A physician assistant who, acting in good faith, prescribes or delivers an
2 opioid antagonist in accordance with sub. (2) or who, acting in good faith, otherwise
3 lawfully prescribes or dispenses an opioid antagonist shall be immune from criminal
4 or civil liability and may not be subject to professional discipline under s. 448.978 for
5 any outcomes resulting from prescribing, delivering, or dispensing the opioid
6 antagonist.

7 **448.973 Powers and duties of board.** **(1)** (a) The board shall promulgate
8 rules implementing s. 448.9785.

9 (b) The board shall promulgate rules establishing continuing education
10 requirements for physician assistants.

11 (c) The board may promulgate other rules to carry out the purposes of this
12 subchapter, including any of the following:

13 1. Rules defining what constitutes unprofessional conduct for physician
14 assistants for purposes of s. 448.978 (2) (d).

15 2. Rules under s. 448.977 (2).

16 **(2)** The board shall include in the register the board maintains under s. 440.035
17 (1m) (d) the names of all persons whose licenses issued under this subchapter were
18 suspended or revoked within the past 2 years. The register shall be available for
19 purchase at cost.

20 **448.974 License; renewal.** **(1)** (a) Except as provided in par. (b), the board
21 shall grant an initial license to practice as a physician assistant to any applicant who
22 is found qualified by three-fourths of the members of the board and satisfies all of
23 the following requirements, as determined by the board:

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 1. The applicant submits an application on a form provided by the department
2 and pays the initial credential fee determined by the department under s. 440.03 (9)

3 (a).

4 2. The applicant is at least 18 years of age.

5 3. The applicant provides evidence of one of the following:

6 a. That the applicant has successfully completed an educational program for
7 physician assistants or physician associates that is accredited by the Accreditation
8 Review Commission on Education for the Physician Assistant or its successor or,
9 prior to 2001, by the Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation or the
10 Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.

11 b. If the applicant does not satisfy subd. 3. a., that the applicant, prior to
12 January 1, 1986, successfully passed the Physician Assistant National Certifying
13 Examination administered by the National Commission on Certification of
14 Physician Assistants.

15 4. The applicant passes the National Commission on Certification of Physician
16 Assistants examination or an equivalent national examination adopted by the board.

17 5. The applicant provides a listing with all employers, practice settings,
18 internships, residencies, fellowships, and other employment for the past 7 years.

19 6. Subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322, and 111.335, the applicant does not have an
20 arrest or conviction record.

21 (b) Paragraph (a) 3. does not apply to an applicant if the applicant provides
22 evidence that he or she is licensed as a physician assistant or physician associate in
23 another state, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin
24 Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United
25 States and the board determines that the requirements for obtaining the license in

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 52**

1 that state or territory are substantially equivalent to the requirements under par.
2 (a).

3 (2) (a) The renewal date for a license issued under this subchapter is specified
4 under s. 440.08 (2) (a), and the renewal fees for such licenses are determined by the
5 department under s. 440.03 (9) (a). Renewal of a license is subject to par. (b).

6 (b) An applicant for the renewal of a license under this subchapter shall submit
7 with his or her application for renewal proof of having satisfied the continuing
8 education requirements imposed by the board under s. 448.973 (1) (b). This
9 paragraph does not apply to an applicant for renewal of a license that expires on the
10 first renewal date after the date on which the board initially granted the license.

11 (3) Notwithstanding sub. (1), an individual who, on the effective date of this
12 subsection [LRB inserts date], was licensed by the medical examining board as
13 a physician assistant under subch. II of ch. 448, 2019 stats., shall be considered to
14 have been licensed under sub. (1) for purposes of this subchapter.

15 **448.975 Practice and employment.** (1) (a) Subject to the limitations and
16 requirements under sub. (2); the physician assistant's experience, education, and
17 training; and any rules promulgated under sub. (5), a physician assistant may do any
18 of the following:

19 1. Examine into the fact, condition, or cause of human health or disease, or
20 treat, operate, prescribe, or advise for the same, by any means or instrumentality.

21 2. Apply principles or techniques of medical sciences in the diagnosis or
22 prevention of any of the conditions described in subd. 1. and in s. 448.971 (2).

23 3. Penetrate, pierce, or sever the tissues of a human being.

24 4. Offer, undertake, attempt, or hold himself or herself out in any manner as
25 able to do any of the acts described in this paragraph.

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 (b) 1. Subject to subd. 2. and any rules promulgated by the board and consistent
2 with his or her experience, education, and training, a physician assistant may order,
3 prescribe, procure, dispense, and administer prescription drugs, medical devices,
4 services, and supplies.

5 2. A physician assistant practicing under the supervision and direction of a
6 podiatrist under sub. (2) (a) 2m. may issue a prescription order for a drug or device
7 in accordance with guidelines established by the supervising podiatrist and the
8 physician assistant and with rules promulgated by the board. If any conflict exists
9 between the guidelines and the rules, the rules shall control.

10 (c) A physician assistant may practice in ambulatory care, acute care,
11 long-term care, home care, or other settings as a primary, specialty, or surgical care
12 provider who may serve as a patient's primary care provider or specialty care
13 provider.

14 (2) (a) 1. Except as provided in subds. 2m. and 3. and sub. (5) (a) 1. a. or b., a
15 physician assistant who provides care to patients shall maintain and provide to the
16 board upon request one of the following:

17 a. Evidence that, pursuant to the physician assistant's employment, there is
18 a physician who is primarily responsible for the overall direction and management
19 of the physician assistant's professional activities and for assuring that the services
20 provided by the physician assistant are medically appropriate. In this subd. 1. a.,
21 "employment" includes an arrangement between the physician assistant and a 3rd
22 party in which the 3rd party receives payment for services provided by the physician
23 assistant.

24 b. A written collaborative agreement with a physician that, subject to subd.
25 1m., describes the physician assistant's individual scope of practice, that includes a

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 52**

1 protocol for identifying an alternative collaborating physician for situations in which
2 the collaborating physician or the physician's designee is not available for
3 consultation, and that includes other information as required by the board.

4 1m. All of the following apply to a written collaborative agreement between a
5 physician and physician assistant under subd. 1. b.:

6 a. The agreement may be terminated by either party by providing written
7 notice at least 30 days prior to the date of termination, or as otherwise agreed to by
8 the physician and physician assistant.

9 b. The agreement shall specify that the collaborating physician shall remain
10 reasonably available to the physician assistant through the use of
11 telecommunications or other electronic means within a medically appropriate time
12 frame and that the collaborating physician may designate an alternate collaborator
13 during periods of unavailability.

14 c. The agreement shall specify an arrangement for physician consultation with
15 the patient within a medically appropriate time frame for consultation, if requested
16 by the patient or the physician assistant.

17 d. The agreement shall be signed by the physician assistant and the
18 collaborating physician.

19 2. Subdivision 1. does not require the physical presence of a physician at the
20 time and place a physician assistant renders a service.

21 2m. A physician assistant may practice under the supervision and direction of
22 a podiatrist. A physician assistant who is practicing under the supervision and
23 direction of a podiatrist shall be limited to providing nonsurgical patient services.
24 Subdivision 1. does not apply to a physician assistant who is practicing under the
25 supervision and direction of a podiatrist.

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 3. Subdivision 1. does not apply with respect to a physician assistant who is
2 employed by the federal government as a civilian or member of the uniformed
3 services while performing duties incident to that employment or service.

4 (b) A physician assistant shall limit his or her practice to the scope of his or her
5 experience, education, and training.

6 (c) No physician assistant may provide medical care, except routine screening
7 and emergency care, in any of the following:

8 1. The practice of dentistry or dental hygiene within the meaning of ch. 447.

9 2. The practice of optometry within the meaning of ch. 449.

10 3. The practice of chiropractic within the meaning of ch. 446.

11 4. The practice of acupuncture within the meaning of ch. 451.

12 5. The practice of podiatry, except when the physician assistant is acting under
13 the supervision and direction of a podiatrist, subject to par. (a) 2m. and the rules
14 promulgated under s. 448.695 (4).

15 **(3)** (a) It shall be the obligation of a physician assistant to ensure all of the
16 following:

17 1. That the scope of the practice of the physician assistant is identified and is
18 appropriate with respect to his or her experience, education, and training.

19 2. For purposes of sub. (2) (a) 1. b., that the relationship with and access to a
20 collaborating physician by the physician assistant is defined.

21 3. That the requirements and standards of licensure under this subchapter are
22 complied with.

23 4. That consultation with or referral to other licensed health care providers
24 with a scope of practice appropriate for a patient's care needs occurs when the
25 patient's care needs exceed the physician assistant's experience, education, or

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 52**

1 training. A physician assistant shall ensure that he or she has awareness of options
2 for the management of situations that are beyond the physician assistant's expertise.

3 (b) A physician assistant is individually and independently responsible for the
4 quality of the care he or she renders.

5 (4) A physician assistant may delegate a care task or order to another clinically
6 trained health care worker if the physician assistant is competent to perform the
7 delegated task or order and has reasonable evidence that the clinically trained
8 health care worker is minimally competent to perform the task or issue the order
9 under the circumstances.

10 (5) (a) 1. The board shall, subject to subd. 2. and s. 448.695 (4), promulgate any
11 rules necessary to implement this section, including rules to do any of the following:

12 a. Allow for temporary practice, specifically defined and actively monitored by
13 the board, in the event of an interruption of a collaborative relationship under sub.

14 (2) (a) 1. b.

15 b. Allow a physician assistant, in the absence of an employment or collaborative
16 relationship under sub. (2) (a) 1., to provide medical care at the scene of an
17 emergency, during a declared state of emergency or other disaster, or when
18 volunteering at sporting events or at camps.

19 2. Rules promulgated by the board may not permit a broader scope of practice
20 than that which may be exercised in accordance with subs. (1) and (2).
21 Notwithstanding s. 15.085 (5) (b) 2., if the Medical Examining Board reasonably
22 determines that a rule submitted to it by the Physician Assistant Affiliated
23 Credentialing Board under s. 15.085 (5) (b) 1. permits a broader scope of practice
24 than that which may be exercised in accordance with subs. (1) and (2), then the
25 Physician Assistant Examining Board shall, prior to submitting the proposed rule

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 to the legislative council staff under s. 227.15 (1), revise the proposed rule so that it
2 does not exceed or permit a broader scope of practice than that which may be
3 exercised in accordance with subs. (1) and (2).

4 (b) The board shall develop and recommend to the podiatry affiliated
5 credentialing board practice standards for physician assistants practicing under
6 podiatrists under sub. (2) (a) 2m.

7 (6) The practice permissions provided in this section are permissions granted
8 by the state authorizing the licensed practice of physician assistants. Nothing in this
9 section prohibits an employer, hospital, health plan, or other similar entity
10 employing or with a relationship with a physician assistant from establishing
11 additional requirements for a physician assistant as a condition of employment or
12 relationship.

13 **448.976 Civil liability.** No physician assistant shall be liable for any civil
14 damages for either of the following:

15 (1) Reporting in good faith to the department of transportation under s. 146.82
16 (3) a patient's name and other information relevant to a physical or mental condition
17 of the patient that in the physician assistant's judgment impairs the patient's ability
18 to exercise reasonable and ordinary control over a motor vehicle.

19 (2) In good faith, not reporting to the department of transportation under s.
20 146.82 (3) a patient's name and other information relevant to a physical or mental
21 condition of the patient that in the physician assistant's judgment does not impair
22 the patient's ability to exercise reasonable and ordinary control over a motor vehicle.

23 **448.977 Malpractice liability insurance.** (1) Except as provided in subs.
24 (2) and (3), no physician assistant may practice as authorized under s. 448.975 unless

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 52**

1 he or she has in effect malpractice liability insurance coverage evidenced by one of
2 the following:

3 (a) Personal liability coverage in the amounts specified for health care
4 providers under s. 655.23 (4).

5 (b) Coverage under a group liability policy providing individual coverage for the
6 physician assistant in the amounts under s. 655.23 (4).

7 **(2)** The board may promulgate rules requiring a practicing physician assistant
8 to have in effect malpractice liability insurance coverage in amounts greater than
9 those specified in sub. (1) (a) or (b) or (4). If the board promulgates rules under this
10 subsection, no physician assistant may practice as authorized under s. 448.975
11 unless he or she has in effect malpractice liability insurance coverage as required
12 under those rules, except as provided in sub. (3).

13 **(3)** A physician assistant who is a state, county, or municipal employee, or
14 federal employee or contractor covered under the federal tort claims act, as amended,
15 and who is acting within the scope of his or her employment or contractual duties is
16 not required to maintain in effect malpractice insurance coverage.

17 **(4)** Except as provided in subs. (2) and (3), a physician assistant may comply
18 with sub. (1) if the physician assistant's employer has in effect malpractice liability
19 insurance that is at least the minimum amount specified under s. 655.23 (4) and that
20 provides coverage for claims against the physician assistant.

21 **448.978 Professional discipline.** (1) Subject to the rules promulgated under
22 s. 440.03 (1), the board may conduct investigations and hearings to determine
23 whether a person has violated this subchapter or a rule promulgated under this
24 subchapter.

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 (2) Subject to the rules promulgated under s. 440.03 (1), if a person who applies
2 for or holds a license issued under s. 448.974 does any of the following, the board may
3 reprimand the person or deny, limit, suspend, or revoke the person's license:

4 (a) Makes a material misstatement in an application for a license or an
5 application for renewal of a license under s. 448.974.

6 (b) Violates any law of this state or federal law that substantially relates to the
7 practice of a physician assistant, violates this subchapter, or violates a rule
8 promulgated under this subchapter.

9 (c) Advertises, practices, or attempts to practice under another person's name.

10 (d) Engages in unprofessional conduct. In this paragraph, "unprofessional
11 conduct" does not include any of the following:

12 1. Providing expedited partner therapy as described in s. 448.9725.

13 2. Prescribing or delivering an opioid antagonist in accordance with s. 448.9727

14 (2).

15 (e) Subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322, and 111.335, is arrested for or convicted of
16 a felony.

17 (f) Subject to ss. 111.321, 111.322, and 111.34, practices as a physician assistant
18 while his or her ability is impaired by alcohol or other drugs.

19 (g) Engages in fraud or deceit in obtaining or using his or her license.

20 (h) Is adjudicated mentally incompetent by a court.

21 (i) Demonstrates gross negligence, incompetence, or misconduct in practice.

22 (j) Knowingly, recklessly, or negligently divulges a privileged communication
23 or other confidential patient health care information except as required or permitted
24 by state or federal law.

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 52**

1 (k) Fails to cooperate with the board, or fails to timely respond to a request for
2 information by the board, in connection with an investigation under this section.

3 (L) Prescribes, sells, administers, distributes, orders, or provides a controlled
4 substance for a purpose other than a medical purpose.

5 (m) Demonstrates a lack of physical or mental ability to safely practice as a
6 physician assistant.

7 (n) Engages in any practice that is outside the scope of his or her experience,
8 education, or training.

9 (o) Is disciplined or has been disciplined by another state or jurisdiction based
10 upon acts or conduct similar to acts or conduct prohibited under pars. (a) to (n).

11 **448.9785 Informed consent.** Any physician assistant who treats a patient
12 shall inform the patient about the availability of reasonable alternate medical modes
13 of treatment and about the benefits and risks of these treatments. The reasonable
14 physician assistant standard is the standard for informing a patient under this
15 section. The reasonable physician assistant standard requires disclosure only of
16 information that a reasonable physician assistant in the same or a similar medical
17 specialty would know and disclose under the circumstances. The physician
18 assistant's duty to inform the patient under this section does not require disclosure
19 of any of the following:

20 (1) Detailed technical information that in all probability a patient would not
21 understand.

22 (2) Risks apparent or known to the patient.

23 (3) Extremely remote possibilities that might falsely or detrimentally alarm
24 the patient.

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 (4) Information in emergencies where failure to provide treatment would be
2 more harmful to the patient than treatment.

3 (5) Information in cases where the patient is incapable of consenting.

4 (6) Information about alternate medical modes of treatment for any condition
5 the physician assistant has not included in his or her diagnosis at the time the
6 physician informs the patient.

7 **448.979 Penalties.** Any person who violates this subchapter is subject to a
8 fine not to exceed \$10,000 or imprisonment not to exceed 9 months, or both.

9 **448.9793 Injunction.** If it appears upon complaint to the board by any person
10 or if it is known to the board that any person is violating this subchapter, or rules
11 adopted by the board under this subchapter, the board or the attorney general may
12 investigate and may, in addition to any other remedies, bring action in the name and
13 on behalf of the state against any such person to enjoin such person from such
14 violation. The attorney general shall represent the board in all proceedings.

15 **448.9795 Duty to report. (1)** A physician assistant who has reason to believe
16 any of the following about another physician assistant shall promptly submit a
17 written report to the board that includes facts relating to the conduct of the other
18 physician assistant:

19 (a) The other physician assistant is engaging or has engaged in acts that
20 constitute a pattern of unprofessional conduct.

21 (b) The other physician assistant is engaging or has engaged in an act that
22 creates an immediate or continuing danger to one or more patients or to the public.

23 (c) The other physician assistant is or may be medically incompetent.

24 (d) The other physician assistant is or may be mentally or physically unable
25 safely to engage in the practice of a physician assistant.

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 52**

1 **(2)** No physician assistant who reports to the board under sub. (1) may be held
2 civilly or criminally liable or be found guilty of unprofessional conduct for reporting
3 in good faith.

4 **SECTION 53.** Subchapter VIII of chapter 448 [precedes 448.980] of the statutes
5 is renumbered subchapter IX of chapter 448 [precedes 448.980].

6 **SECTION 54.** Subchapter IX of chapter 448 [precedes 448.985] of the statutes
7 is renumbered subchapter X of chapter 448 [precedes 448.985].

8 **SECTION 55.** 450.01 (15r) of the statutes is repealed.

9 **SECTION 56.** 450.01 (16) (hm) 3. of the statutes is amended to read:

10 450.01 **(16)** (hm) 3. The patient's physician assistant, ~~if the physician assistant~~
11 ~~is under the supervision of the patient's personal attending physician.~~

12 **SECTION 57.** 450.11 (1) of the statutes is amended to read:

13 450.11 **(1)** DISPENSING. Except as provided in sub. (1i) (b) 2., no person may
14 dispense any prescribed drug or device except upon the prescription order of a
15 practitioner. All prescription orders shall, except as provided in sub. (1a), specify the
16 date of issue, the name and address of the practitioner, the name and quantity of the
17 drug product or device prescribed, directions for the use of the drug product or device,
18 the symptom or purpose for which the drug is being prescribed if required under sub.
19 (4) (a) 8., and, if the order is written by the practitioner, the signature of the
20 practitioner. Except as provided in ss. 118.2925 (3), 255.07 (2), 441.18 (2) (a) 1.,
21 448.035 (2), and 448.037 (2) (a) 1., 448.9725 (2), and 448.9727 (2) (a) 1. and except
22 for standing orders issued under s. 441.18 (2) (a) 2. ~~or~~, 448.037 (2) (a) 2., or 448.9727
23 (2) (a) 2., all prescription orders shall also specify the name and address of the
24 patient. A prescription order issued under s. 118.2925 (3) shall specify the name and
25 address of the school. A prescription order issued under s. 255.07 (2) shall specify

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 the name and address of the authorized entity or authorized individual. Any oral
2 prescription order shall be immediately reduced to writing by the pharmacist and
3 filed according to sub. (2).

4 **SECTION 58.** 450.11 (1g) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

5 450.11 (1g) (b) A pharmacist may, upon the prescription order of a practitioner
6 providing expedited partner therapy, as specified in s. 448.035 or 448.9725, that
7 complies with the requirements of sub. (1), dispense an antimicrobial drug as a
8 course of therapy for treatment of chlamydial infections, gonorrhea, or
9 trichomoniasis to the practitioner's patient or a person with whom the patient has
10 had sexual contact for use by the person with whom the patient has had sexual
11 contact. The pharmacist shall provide a consultation in accordance with rules
12 promulgated by the board for the dispensing of a prescription to the person to whom
13 the antimicrobial drug is dispensed. A pharmacist providing a consultation under
14 this paragraph shall ask whether the person for whom the antimicrobial drug has
15 been prescribed is allergic to the antimicrobial drug and advise that the person for
16 whom the antimicrobial drug has been prescribed must discontinue use of the
17 antimicrobial drug if the person is allergic to or develops signs of an allergic reaction
18 to the antimicrobial drug.

19 **SECTION 59.** 450.11 (1i) (a) 1. of the statutes is amended to read:

20 450.11 (1i) (a) 1. A pharmacist may, upon and in accordance with the
21 prescription order of an advanced practice nurse prescriber under s. 441.18 (2) (a) 1.,
22 ~~or of a physician or physician assistant~~ under s. 448.037 (2) (a) 1., or of a physician
23 assistant under s. 448.9727 (2) (a) 1. that complies with the requirements of sub. (1),
24 deliver an opioid antagonist to a person specified in the prescription order and may,
25 upon and in accordance with the standing order of an advanced practice nurse

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 59**

1 prescriber under s. 441.18 (2) (a) 2., ~~or of a physician or physician assistant under~~
2 s. 448.037 (2) (a) 2., or of a physician assistant under s. 448.9727 (2) (a) 2. that
3 complies with the requirements of sub. (1), deliver an opioid antagonist to an
4 individual in accordance with the order. The pharmacist shall provide a consultation
5 in accordance with rules promulgated by the board for the delivery of a prescription
6 to the person to whom the opioid antagonist is delivered.

7 **SECTION 60.** 450.11 (1i) (b) 2. c. of the statutes is amended to read:

8 450.11 (1i) (b) 2. c. A physician ~~or physician assistant~~ may only deliver or
9 dispense an opioid antagonist in accordance with s. 448.037 (2) or in accordance with
10 his or her other legal authority to dispense prescription drugs.

11 **SECTION 61.** 450.11 (1i) (b) 2. cm. of the statutes is created to read:

12 450.11 (1i) (b) 2. cm. A physician assistant may only deliver or dispense an
13 opioid antagonist in accordance with s. 448.9727 (2) or in accordance with his or her
14 other legal authority to dispense prescription drugs.

15 **SECTION 62.** 450.11 (1i) (c) 2. of the statutes is amended to read:

16 450.11 (1i) (c) 2. Subject to par. (a) 2. and ss. 441.18 (3) ~~and~~, 448.037 (3), and
17 448.9727 (3), any person who, acting in good faith, delivers or dispenses an opioid
18 antagonist to another person shall be immune from civil or criminal liability for any
19 outcomes resulting from delivering or dispensing the opioid antagonist.

20 **SECTION 63.** 450.11 (8) (b) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 450.11 (8) (b) The medical examining board, insofar as this section applies to
22 physicians ~~and physician assistants~~.

23 **SECTION 64.** 450.11 (8) (f) of the statutes is created to read:

24 450.11 (8) (f) The physician assistant affiliated credentialing board, insofar as
25 this section applies to physician assistants.

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 **SECTION 65.** 462.02 (2) (e) of the statutes is amended to read:

2 462.02 (2) (e) A physician assistant licensed under s. 448.04 (1) (f) 448.974.

3 **SECTION 66.** 462.04 of the statutes is amended to read:

4 **462.04 Prescription or order required.** A person who holds a license or
5 limited X-ray machine operator permit under this chapter may not use diagnostic
6 X-ray equipment on humans for diagnostic purposes unless authorized to do so by
7 prescription or order of a physician licensed under s. 448.04 (1) (a), a dentist licensed
8 under s. 447.04 (1), a podiatrist licensed under s. 448.63, a chiropractor licensed
9 under s. 446.02, an advanced practice nurse certified under s. 441.16 (2), a physician
10 assistant licensed under s. 448.04 (1) (f) 448.974, or, subject to s. 448.56 (7) (a), a
11 physical therapist who is licensed under s. 448.53 or who holds a compact privilege
12 under subch. IX X of ch. 448.

13 **SECTION 67.** 961.01 (19) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

14 961.01 (19) (a) A physician, advanced practice nurse, dentist, veterinarian,
15 podiatrist, optometrist, scientific investigator or, subject to s. 448.21 (3) 448.975 (1)
16 (b), a physician assistant, or other person licensed, registered, certified or otherwise
17 permitted to distribute, dispense, conduct research with respect to, administer or use
18 in teaching or chemical analysis a controlled substance in the course of professional
19 practice or research in this state.

20 **SECTION 68.** 971.14 (4) (a) of the statutes is amended to read:

21 971.14 (4) (a) The court shall cause copies of the report to be delivered forthwith
22 to the district attorney and the defense counsel, or the defendant personally if not
23 represented by counsel. Upon the request of the sheriff or jailer charged with care
24 and control of the jail in which the defendant is being held pending or during a trial
25 or sentencing proceeding, the court shall cause a copy of the report to be delivered

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 68**

1 to the sheriff or jailer. The sheriff or jailer may provide a copy of the report to the
2 person who is responsible for maintaining medical records for inmates of the jail, or
3 to a nurse licensed under ch. 441, ~~or to a physician or physician assistant licensed~~
4 under subch. II of ch. 448, or to a physician assistant licensed under subch. VIII of
5 ch. 448 who is a health care provider for the defendant or who is responsible for
6 providing health care services to inmates of the jail. The report shall not be otherwise
7 disclosed prior to the hearing under this subsection.

8 **SECTION 69.** 990.01 (27s) of the statutes is created to read:

9 990.01 (27s) PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT. "Physician assistant" means a person
10 licensed as a physician assistant under subch. VIII of ch. 448.

11 **SECTION 70.** Chapter Med 8 of the administrative code is repealed.

12 **SECTION 71. Cross-reference changes.** In ss. 49.45 (9r) (a) 7. b., 146.81 (1)
13 (dg), 146.997 (1) (d) 4., 155.01 (7), 252.14 (1) (ar) 4e., 446.01 (1v) (d), 448.956 (1m) and
14 (4), 450.10 (3) (a) 5., and 451.02 (1), the cross-references to "subch. IX of ch. 448" are
15 changed to "subch. X of ch. 448."

16 **SECTION 72. Nonstatutory provisions.**

17 (1) BOARD; APPOINTMENTS.

18 (a) Notwithstanding the length of terms specified for the members of the
19 physician assistant affiliated credentialing board under s. 15.406 (7), 4 of the initial
20 members under s. 15.406 (7) (a) shall be appointed for terms expiring on July 1, 2023;
21 3 of the initial members under s. 15.406 (7) (a) and the initial member under s. 15.406
22 (7) (b) shall be appointed for terms expiring on July 1, 2024; and the remaining initial
23 member under s. 15.406 (7) (a) shall be appointed for a term expiring on July 1, 2025.

24 (b) Notwithstanding s. 15.08 (1), the governor may provisionally appoint initial
25 members of the physician assistant affiliated credentialing board under s. 15.406 (7).

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 Those provisional appointments remain in force until withdrawn by the governor or
2 acted upon by the senate and if confirmed by the senate, shall continue for the
3 remainder of the unexpired term, if any, of the member and until a successor is
4 chosen and qualifies. A provisional appointee may exercise all the powers and duties
5 of board membership to which the person is appointed during the time in which the
6 appointee qualifies.

7 (c) Notwithstanding s. 15.406 (7) (a), for purposes of an initial appointment to
8 the physician assistant affiliated credentialing board made before the date specified
9 in SECTION 73 (intro.) of this act, including any provisional appointment made under
10 par. (b), the governor may appoint physician assistants licensed under subch. II of
11 ch. 448 to the positions on the board specified under s. 15.406 (7) (a).

12 (2) EMERGENCY RULES.

13 (a) Using the procedure under s. 227.24, the physician assistant affiliated
14 credentialing board may promulgate initial rules under ss. 448.973 (1) and 448.975
15 (5) (a) as emergency rules under s. 227.24 to allow for the licensure, discipline, and
16 practice of physician assistants. The authority granted under this subsection applies
17 only to rules described in this paragraph, and any other emergency rules
18 promulgated by the board shall be as provided in, and subject to, s. 227.24.

19 (b) Notwithstanding s. 227.24 (1) (a) and (3), the physician assistant affiliated
20 credentialing board is not required to provide evidence that promulgating a rule
21 under this subsection as an emergency rule is necessary for the preservation of the
22 public peace, health, safety, or welfare and is not required to provide a finding of
23 emergency for a rule promulgated under this subsection.

24 (c) Emergency rules promulgated under this subsection may not take effect
25 prior to the date specified in SECTION 73 (intro.) of this act.

ASSEMBLY BILL 125**SECTION 72**

1 (d) Notwithstanding s. 227.24 (1) (c), emergency rules promulgated under this
2 subsection remain in effect for one year, subject to extension under par. (e), or until
3 the date on which permanent rules take effect, whichever is sooner.

4 (e) Notwithstanding s. 227.24 (2) (a), the joint committee for review of
5 administrative rules may, at any time prior to the expiration date of the emergency
6 rule promulgated under this subsection, extend the effective period of the emergency
7 rule at the request of the physician assistant affiliated credentialing board for a
8 period specified by the committee not to exceed 180 days. Any number of extensions
9 may be granted under this paragraph, but the total period for all extensions may not
10 extend beyond the expiration date of the emergency rule's statement of scope under
11 s. 227.135 (5). Notwithstanding s. 227.24 (2) (b) 1., the physician assistant affiliated
12 credentialing board is not required to provide evidence that there is a threat to the
13 public peace, health, safety, or welfare that can be avoided only by extension of the
14 emergency rule when making a request for an extension under this subsection, but
15 s. 227.24 (2) (am) to (c) shall otherwise apply to extensions under this paragraph.

16 (f) If the physician assistant affiliated credentialing board promulgates
17 emergency rules under this subsection, the board shall submit a single statement of
18 scope for both permanent and emergency rules.

19 (3) BOARD; TRANSFERS.

20 (a) *Tangible personal property.* On the effective date of this paragraph, all
21 tangible personal property, including records, of the medical examining board that
22 the secretary of safety and professional services determines to be primarily related
23 to the regulation of physician assistants is transferred to the physician assistant
24 affiliated credentialing board.

ASSEMBLY BILL 125

1 (b) *Pending matters.* Any matter pending with the medical examining board
2 on the effective date of this paragraph that is primarily related to the regulation of
3 physician assistants, as determined by the secretary of safety and professional
4 services, is transferred to the physician assistant affiliated credentialing board. All
5 materials submitted to or actions taken by the medical examining board with respect
6 to the pending matter are considered as having been submitted to or taken by the
7 physician assistant affiliated credentialing board.

8 (c) *Contracts.* All contracts entered into by the medical examining board in
9 effect on the effective date of this paragraph that are primarily related to the
10 regulation of physician assistants, as determined by the secretary of safety and
11 professional services, remain in effect and are transferred to the physician assistant
12 affiliated credentialing board. The physician assistant affiliated credentialing board
13 shall carry out any obligations under such a contract until the contract is modified
14 or rescinded by the physician assistant affiliated credentialing board to the extent
15 allowed under the contract.

16 (d) *Assets and liabilities.* On the effective date of this paragraph, the assets and
17 liabilities of the medical examining board that are primarily related to the regulation
18 of physician assistants, as determined by the secretary of safety and professional
19 services, become the assets and liabilities of the physician assistant affiliated
20 credentialing board.

21 (e) *Orders.* All orders issued by the medical examining board in effect on the
22 effective date of this paragraph that are primarily related to the regulation of
23 physician assistants remain in effect until their specified expiration dates or until
24 modified or rescinded by the physician assistant affiliated credentialing board.

