

HB276 ENGROSSED



1 HB276
2 W17PY99-2
3 By Representatives Oliver, Lee, Paramore, Sorrells, Lipscomb,
4 Shirey, Brinyark, Lamb, Mooney
5 RFD: Health
6 First Read: 15-Jan-26



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A BILL
TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT

Relating to physician endorsements; to amend Sections 34-21-93.1 and 34-24-292, Code of Alabama 1975; to provide that an endorsement by a certified registered nurse practitioner, a certified nurse midwife, or an assistant to a physician on a physical examination form for participation in school athletics satisfies any requirement for the endorsement of a physician on the required form; and to prohibit an athletic association, club, or league from refusing to accept physical examination forms for participation in school athletics endorsed in compliance with this act.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

Section 1. Sections 34-21-93.1 and 34-24-292 of the Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read as follows:

"§34-21-93.1

(a) When any law or rule requires a signature, certification, stamp, verification, affidavit, or endorsement by a physician, the document shall be deemed to authorize a signature, certification, stamp, verification, affidavit, or endorsement by a certified registered nurse practitioner or certified nurse midwife for the items listed in this section.



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The authority in this section for a certified registered nurse practitioner and a certified nurse midwife shall be subject to an active collaboration agreement. This section applies to all of the following:

(1) Certification of disability for patients to receive special access parking or disability access parking tags or placards.

(2) A signature required for any of the following:

a. The following documents that require a complete history and physical examination consistent with the examining provider's scope of practice and certification:

1. Physicals for bus drivers in this state using State of Alabama forms.

2. Physicals to verify eligibility for students to participate in the Special Olympics.

3. Employment and pre-employment physicals for Transportation Security Agency (TSA) employees at an airport or for governmental employees such as firefighters and law enforcement officers.

4. Adoptive parent applications.

5. College or trade school physicals.

6. Boy Scout or Girl Scout physicals or physical required by similar organizations.

7. Physicals to verify eligibility for students to participate in K-12 school athletic activities including, but not limited to, interscholastic athletic activities. The Board of Nursing, on or before July 1, 2026, shall add these physicals as an option to all certified registered nurse



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practitioner and certified nurse midwife model practice
protocols for the parties to a collaboration agreement to
select as an allowable standard skill.

b. Forms excusing a potential jury member due to an illness.

c. Forms relating to absenteeism for employment or school purposes, including, but not limited to, documents associated with the federal Family and Medical Leave Act.

d. Authorizations for durable medical equipment.

e. Authorizations for diabetic testing supplies.

f. Authorization for diabetic shoes.

g. Home health recertification orders after initial certification.

h. Within the state Medicaid system, any and all forms for the ordering of medications, nutritional supplements, or infant formulas, or referrals to providers of medical specialties, home health services, and physical or occupation therapy.

i. Death certificates.

j. Forms, including physical examination forms, needed for certifications in residential or inpatient dwellings within the Department of Mental Health.

k. Forms for ambulance transport.

l. Forms for donor breast milk.

m. Required documentation allowing a diabetic to renew or obtain a driver's license.

(b) Additional forms may be approved by rule under the Alabama Administrative Procedure Act by the State Board of



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Medical Examiners, after consulting with the state professional society of nurse practitioners, the state professional society of nurse midwives, the state professional society of physicians, or the Joint Committee of the State Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing for Advanced Practice Nurses as established by Section 34-21-81, whichever is appropriate.

(c) This section shall not be construed to expand the scope of practice for any certified registered nurse practitioner or certified nurse midwife.

(d) This section does not expand the scope of a collaborative physician's responsibility with regard to nurse practitioners or nurse midwives under the laws of this state.

(e) (1) For purposes of this subsection, an athletic association has the same meaning as provided in Section 16-1-52.1.

(2) An athletic association, club, or league shall not refuse to accept physical examination forms to verify eligibility for students to participate in K-12 school athletic activities which are endorsed by a certified registered nurse practitioner or certified nurse midwife in compliance with this section."

"§34-24-292

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a licensed assistant to a physician may perform medical services when the services are rendered under the supervision of a licensed physician or physicians approved by the board; except, that no medical services may be performed under this



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article except under the supervision of an ophthalmologist in the office in which the physician normally actually practices his or her profession and nowhere else in any of the following areas:

(1) The measurement of the powers or range of human vision or the determination of the accommodation and refractive state of the human eye or the scope of its functions in general or the fitting or adaptation of lenses or frames for the aid thereof.

(2) The prescribing or directing the use of or using any optical device in connection with ocular exercises, visual training, or orthoptics.

(3) The prescribing of contact lenses for or the fitting or adaptation of contact lenses to the human eye. Nothing in this section shall preclude the performance of routine visual screening.

(b) In the performance of any medical service contemplated by this article, an assistant to a physician shall be conclusively presumed to be the agent, servant, or employee solely of the licensed physician or physicians under whose supervision he or she performs the service, and no other person, firm, corporation, or other organization shall be held liable or responsible for any act or omission of the assistant arising out of the performance of the medical service.

(c) A licensed assistant to a physician registered to a licensed physician practicing under a job description approved in the manner prescribed by this article may prescribe legend drugs to patients, subject to both of the following



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conditions:

(1) The drug type, dosage, quantity prescribed, and number of refills shall be authorized in an approved job description signed by the physicians to whom the assistant is registered.

(2) The drug shall be on the formulary approved under the guidelines of the Board of Medical Examiners.

(d) Assistants to physicians may administer any legend drug which they are authorized to prescribe under this section. An assistant to a physician may not initiate a call-in prescription in the name of his or her physician for any drug, whether legend drug or controlled substance, which the assistant is not authorized to prescribe under the job description signed by his or her physician and approved under this section, unless the drug is specifically ordered for the patient by the physician either in writing or by a verbal order which has been reduced to writing and which has been signed by the physician within a time specified in the guidelines of the Board of Medical Examiners.

(e) (1) An assistant to a physician who has successfully completed the Physician Assistant National Certification Examination and is registered to a physician practicing under a job description approved in the manner prescribed by this article may sign physicals to verify eligibility for students to participate in K-12 school athletic activities including, but not limited to, interscholastic athletic activities, without requiring the additional signature of a physician. The State Board of Medical Examiners, on or before July 1, 2026,



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169 shall update its forms to include these physicals as an option
170 for the supervising physician and eligible assistant to a
171 physician to select as an allowable standard skill.

172 (2)a. For purposes of this subdivision, an athletic
173 association has the same meaning as provided in Section
174 16-1-52.1.

175 b. An athletic association, club, or league shall not
176 refuse to accept physical examination forms to verify
177 eligibility for students to participate in K-12 school
178 athletic activities which are endorsed by an assistant to a
179 physician in compliance with this section."

180 Section 2. This act shall become effective on June 1,
181 2026.



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House of Representatives

185 Read for the first time and referred15-Jan-26
186 to the House of Representatives
187 committee on Health
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189 Read for the second time and placed05-Feb-26
190 on the calendar:
191 0 amendments
192
193 Read for the third time and passed10-Feb-26
194 as amended
195 Yeas 99
196 Nays 0
197 Abstains 6
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John Treadwell
Clerk