



SYNOPSIS:

Under existing law, the endorsement of a certified registered nurse practitioner or certified nurse midwife is deemed to be the endorsement of a physician for certain health or medical related documents.

This bill would specifically provide that the endorsement of a certified registered nurse practitioner or certified nurse midwife on a physical examination form for participation of a student in K-12 school athletics is deemed to be the endorsement of a physician.

This bill would specifically provide that the endorsement of an assistant to a physician on a physical examination form for participation of a student in K-12 school athletics is deemed to be the endorsement of a physician.

This bill would also 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.

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. 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



85 school purposes, including, but not limited to, documents
86 associated with the federal Family and Medical Leave Act.

87 d. Authorizations for durable medical equipment.

88 e. Authorizations for diabetic testing supplies.

89 f. Authorization for diabetic shoes.

90 g. Home health recertification orders after initial
91 certification.

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

97 i. Death certificates.

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

101 k. Forms for ambulance transport.

102 l. Forms for donor breast milk.

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

105 (b) Additional forms may be approved by rule under the
106 Alabama Administrative Procedure Act by the State Board of
107 Medical Examiners, after consulting with the state
108 professional society of nurse practitioners, the state
109 professional society of nurse midwives, the state professional
110 society of physicians, or the Joint Committee of the State
111 Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing for
112 Advanced Practice Nurses as established by Section 34-21-81,



113 whichever is appropriate.

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

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

120 (e) (1) For purposes of this subsection, an athletic
121 association has the same meaning as provided in Section
122 16-1-52.1.

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

129 "§34-24-292

130 (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a
131 licensed assistant to a physician may perform medical services
132 when the services are rendered under the supervision of a
133 licensed physician or physicians approved by the board;
134 except, that no medical services may be performed under this
135 article except under the supervision of an ophthalmologist in
136 the office in which the physician normally actually practices
137 his or her profession and nowhere else in any of the following
138 areas:

139 (1) The measurement of the powers or range of human
140 vision or the determination of the accommodation and



141 refractive state of the human eye or the scope of its
142 functions in general or the fitting or adaptation of lenses or
143 frames for the aid thereof.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

202 Section 2. This act shall become effective on June 1,
203 2026.