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4 SYNOPSIS:

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

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

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

21 This bill would also prohibit an athletic  
22 association, club, or league from refusing to accept  
23 physical examination forms for participation in school  
24 athletics endorsed in compliance with this act.

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A BILL

28

TO BE ENTITLED



29

AN ACT

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31                   Relating to physician endorsements; to amend Sections  
32                   34-21-93.1 and 34-24-292, Code of Alabama 1975; to provide  
33                   that an endorsement by a certified registered nurse  
34                   practitioner, a certified nurse midwife, or an assistant to a  
35                   physician on a physical examination form for participation in  
36                   school athletics satisfies any requirement for the endorsement  
37                   of a physician on the required form; and to prohibit an  
38                   athletic association, club, or league from refusing to accept  
39                   physical examination forms for participation in school  
40                   athletics endorsed in compliance with this act.

41                   BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

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

44                   "§34-21-93.1

45                   (a) When any law or rule requires a signature,  
46                   certification, stamp, verification, affidavit, or endorsement  
47                   by a physician, the document shall be deemed to authorize a  
48                   signature, certification, stamp, verification, affidavit, or  
49                   endorsement by a certified registered nurse practitioner or  
50                   certified nurse midwife for the items listed in this section.  
51                   The authority in this section for a certified registered nurse  
52                   practitioner and a certified nurse midwife shall be subject to  
53                   an active collaboration agreement. This section applies to all  
54                   of the following:

55                   (1) Certification of disability for patients to receive  
56                   special access parking or disability access parking tags or



57 placards.

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

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

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

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

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

70 4. Adoptive parent applications.

71 5. College or trade school physicals.

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

74 7. Physicals to verify eligibility for students to  
75 participate in K-12 school athletic activities including, but  
76 not limited to, interscholastic athletic activities. The Board  
77 of Nursing, on or before July 1, 2026, shall add these  
78 physicals as an option to all certified registered nurse  
79 practitioner and certified nurse midwife model practice  
80 protocols for the parties to a collaboration agreement to  
81 select as an allowable standard skill.

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

84 c. Forms relating to absenteeism for employment 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



169 the guidelines of the Board of Medical Examiners.

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

182 (e) (1) An assistant to a physician who has successfully  
183 completed the Physician Assistant National Certification  
184 Examination and is registered to a physician practicing under  
185 a job description approved in the manner prescribed by this  
186 article may sign physicals to verify eligibility for students  
187 to participate in K-12 school athletic activities including,  
188 but not limited to, interscholastic athletic activities,  
189 without requiring the additional signature of a physician. The  
190 State Board of Medical Examiners, on or before July 1, 2026,  
191 shall update its forms to include these physicals as an option  
192 for the supervising physician and eligible assistant to a  
193 physician to select as an allowable standard skill.

194 (2) a. For purposes of this subdivision, an athletic  
195 association has the same meaning as provided in Section  
196 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.