

**First Regular Session
Seventy-fourth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

PREAMENDED

This Unofficial Version Includes Committee
Amendments Not Yet Adopted on Second Reading

LLS NO. 23-0226.01 Yelana Love x2295

SENATE BILL 23-083

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Winter F. and Simpson,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

Senate Committees
Health & Human Services

House Committees

A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 **CONCERNING AN EXPANSION OF A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S ABILITY TO**
102 **PRACTICE, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, CHANGING THE**
103 **RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT AND A**
104 **PHYSICIAN OR PODIATRIST FROM SUPERVISION TO**
105 **COLLABORATION.**

Bill Summary

(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)

The bill modifies the relationship between a physician assistant and a physician or podiatrist by removing the requirement that a physician

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

assistant be supervised by a physician or podiatrist. Instead, a physician assistant must enter into a collaborative agreement with an employer, physician, or podiatrist.

The collaborative agreement must include:

- The physician assistant's name, license number, and primary location of practice;
- The signature of the physician assistant and the person with whom the physician assistant has entered into the collaborative agreement;
- A general description of the physician assistant's process for collaboration;
- A description of the performance evaluation process, which may be completed by the physician assistant's employer in accordance with a performance evaluation and review process established by the employer; and
- Any additional requirements specific to the physician assistant's practice required by the employer, physician, or podiatrist entering into the collaborative agreement, including additional levels of oversight, limitations on autonomous judgment, and the designation of a primary contact for collaboration.

For a physician assistant with fewer than 3,000 practice hours, the collaborative agreement must also:

- Require that collaboration during the first 160 practice hours be completed in person or through technology;
- Incorporate elements defining the expected nature of collaboration; and
- Require a performance evaluation and discussion of the performance evaluation with the physician assistant.

The bill also requires physician assistants who have been practicing for less than 3 years to satisfy certain financial responsibility requirements from which such physician assistants are exempt under current law.

1 *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:*

2 **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-240-107, **amend**
3 (6) as follows:

4 **12-240-107. Practice of medicine defined - exemptions from**
5 **licensing requirements - unauthorized practice by physician**
6 **assistants and anesthesiologist assistants - penalties - definitions -**

1 ~~rules - repeal. (6)(a)(I) A person licensed under the laws of this state~~
2 ~~to practice medicine may delegate to a physician assistant licensed by the~~
3 ~~board pursuant to section 12-240-113 the authority to perform acts that~~
4 ~~constitute the practice of medicine and acts that physicians are authorized~~
5 ~~by law to perform to the extent and in the manner authorized by rules~~
6 ~~promulgated by the board, including the authority to prescribe~~
7 ~~medication, including controlled substances, and dispense only the drugs~~
8 ~~designated by the board. The acts must be consistent with sound medical~~
9 ~~practice. Each prescription for a controlled substance, as defined in~~
10 ~~section 18-18-102 (5), issued by a physician assistant licensed by the~~
11 ~~board shall be imprinted with the name of the physician assistant's~~
12 ~~supervising physician. For all other prescriptions issued by a physician~~
13 ~~assistant, the name and address of the health facility and, if the health~~
14 ~~facility is a multi-speciality organization, the name and address of the~~
15 ~~speciality clinic within the health facility where the physician assistant is~~
16 ~~practicing must be imprinted on the prescription. Nothing in this~~
17 ~~subsection (6) limits the ability of otherwise licensed health personnel to~~
18 ~~perform delegated acts. The dispensing of prescription medication by a~~
19 ~~physician assistant is subject to section 12-280-120 (6) A PHYSICIAN~~
20 ~~ASSISTANT MAY NOT PROVIDE CARE UNLESS THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT~~
21 ~~HAS ENTERED INTO A COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT WITH AN EMPLOYER OR~~
22 ~~A PHYSICIAN LICENSED IN GOOD STANDING PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE~~
23 ~~240 OR ARTICLE 290 OF THIS TITLE 12 OR A PHYSICIAN GROUP.~~

24 ~~(II) AS USED IN THIS SUBSECTION (6), "EMPLOYER" HAS THE~~
25 ~~MEANING SET FORTH IN SECTION 12-240-114.5 (1)(c).~~

26 ~~(b) (I) If the authority to perform an act is delegated pursuant to~~
27 ~~subsection (6)(a) of this section, the physician assistant to whom the act~~

1 is delegated shall not perform the act except under the personal and
2 responsible direction and supervision of a person licensed under the laws
3 of this state to practice medicine. A licensed physician may be responsible
4 for the direction and supervision of up to eight physician assistants at any
5 one time. A licensed physician shall not be made responsible for the
6 direction and supervision of more than four physician assistants unless the
7 licensed physician agrees to assume the responsibility. A licensed
8 physician has sole discretion to assume or refuse such responsibility, and
9 an employer shall not require a licensed physician to assume such
10 responsibility as a condition of employment. The board, by rule, may
11 define what constitutes appropriate direction and supervision of a
12 physician assistant; except that the board shall not promulgate a rule that
13 is inconsistent with section 12-240-114.5 WITH A COLLABORATIVE
14 AGREEMENT IN PLACE, A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LICENSED BY THE BOARD
15 PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-240-113 MAY PERFORM ACTS THAT CONSTITUTE
16 THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE AND ACTS THAT PHYSICIANS ARE AUTHORIZED
17 BY LAW TO PERFORM TO THE EXTENT AND IN THE MANNER AUTHORIZED BY
18 RULES PROMULGATED BY THE BOARD, INCLUDING PRESCRIBING AND
19 DISPENSING MEDICATION, INCLUDING CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

20 (H) ~~For purposes of this subsection (6), "personal and responsible~~
21 ~~direction and supervision" means that the direction and supervision of a~~
22 ~~physician assistant is personally rendered by a licensed physician~~
23 ~~practicing in the state of Colorado and is not rendered through~~
24 ~~intermediaries. The extent of direction and supervision shall be~~
25 ~~determined by rules promulgated by the board and as otherwise provided~~
26 ~~in this subsection (6)(b); except that, when a physician assistant is~~
27 ~~performing a delegated medical function in an acute care hospital, the~~

1 board shall allow supervision and direction to be performed without the
2 physical presence of the physician during the time the delegated medical
3 functions are being implemented if:

4 (A) The medical functions are performed where the supervising
5 physician regularly practices or in a designated health manpower shortage
6 area;

7 (B) The licensed supervising physician reviews the quality of
8 medical services rendered by the physician assistant by reviewing the
9 medical records to assure compliance with the physicians' directions; and

10 (C) The performance of the delegated medical function otherwise
11 complies with the board's rules and any restrictions and protocols of the
12 licensed supervising physician and hospital.

13 (c) Pursuant to section 12-240-135 (7), the board may apply for
14 an injunction to enjoin any person from performing delegated medical
15 acts that are in violation of this section or of any rules promulgated by the
16 board THE COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT MUST BE KEPT ON FILE AT THE
17 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S PRIMARY LOCATION OF PRACTICE AND BE MADE
18 AVAILABLE TO THE BOARD UPON REQUEST.

19 (d) This subsection (6) shall not apply to any person who performs
20 delegated medical tasks within the scope of the exemption contained in
21 subsection (3)(1) of this section AN ACT BY A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT THAT
22 CONSTITUTES THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH
23 GENERALLY ACCEPTED STANDARDS OF MEDICAL PRACTICE. A PHYSICIAN
24 ASSISTANT SHALL COLLABORATE WITH THE APPROPRIATE HEALTH-CARE
25 PROVIDER AS INDICATED BY THE CONDITION OF THE PATIENT, THE
26 STANDARD OF CARE, AND THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S EDUCATION,
27 EXPERIENCE, AND COMPETENCE.

1 (e) AN EMPLOYER SHALL NOT REQUIRE A LICENSED PHYSICIAN TO
2 ENTER INTO A COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT AS A CONDITION OF THE
3 PHYSICIAN'S EMPLOYMENT.

4 (f) ALL PRESCRIPTIONS ISSUED BY A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT MUST
5 INCLUDE THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S NAME, THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF
6 THE HEALTH FACILITY, AND, IF THE HEALTH FACILITY IS A MULTISPECIALTY
7 ORGANIZATION, THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE SPECIALITY CLINIC
8 WITHIN THE HEALTH FACILITY WHERE THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT IS
9 PRACTICING. THE DISPENSING OF PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION BY A
10 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT IS SUBJECT TO SECTION 12-280-120 (6)(a).

11 (g) WHILE PERFORMING ACTS INCLUDED IN THE PRACTICE OF
12 MEDICINE, AS DEFINED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, A PHYSICIAN
13 ASSISTANT SHALL CLEARLY IDENTIFY ONESELF, BOTH VISUALLY AND
14 VERBALLY, AS A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT. A COLLABORATING EMPLOYER,
15 PHYSICIAN, OR PHYSICIAN GROUP MUST IDENTIFY TO PATIENTS THAT A
16 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROVIDING CARE IS A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT.

17 (h) PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-240-135 (7), THE BOARD MAY APPLY
18 FOR AN INJUNCTION TO ENJOIN ANY PERSON FROM PERFORMING MEDICAL
19 ACTS THAT ARE IN VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION OR OF ANY RULES
20 PROMULGATED BY THE BOARD.

21 (i) THIS SUBSECTION (6) DOES NOT APPLY TO ANY PERSON WHO
22 PERFORMS MEDICAL TASKS WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE EXEMPTION
23 SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (3)(1) OF THIS SECTION.

24 (j) A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT IS LIABLE FOR THE CARE PROVIDED BY
25 THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT.

26 (k) A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SHALL COMPLY WITH THE FINANCIAL
27 RESPONSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 13-64-301 (1) AND

1 RULES ADOPTED BY THE BOARD PURSUANT TO THAT SECTION.

2 (I) PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-240-138 (1)(d)(I), A PHYSICIAN
3 ASSISTANT IS NOT AUTHORIZED TO OWN A MAJORITY OF A MEDICAL
4 PRACTICE.

5 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 12-240-114.5
6 as follows:

7 **12-240-114.5. Physician assistants - collaboration**
8 **requirements - proof of practice hours from another jurisdiction -**
9 **liability - definitions.** (1) As used in this section, unless the context
10 otherwise requires:

11 (a) "COLLABORATION" MEANS, AS INDICATED BY THE PATIENT'S
12 CONDITION, COMMUNITY STANDARDS OF CARE, AND A PHYSICIAN
13 ASSISTANT'S EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EXPERIENCE:

14 (I) CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT AND AN
15 EMPLOYER OR A PHYSICIAN; OR

16 (II) REFERRAL BY THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT TO A PHYSICIAN, OR,
17 IF THE REFERRAL IS TO A PHYSICIAN PRACTICING IN A DIFFERENT PRACTICE
18 AREA THAN THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT, A PHYSICIAN'S PRACTICE GROUP.

19 (b) "COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT" MEANS A WRITTEN
20 AGREEMENT THAT DESCRIBES THE MANNER IN WHICH A PHYSICIAN
21 ASSISTANT COLLABORATES WITH AN EMPLOYER OR A PHYSICIAN.

22 (c) "EMPLOYER" MEANS A PERSON THAT EMPLOYS A PHYSICIAN.

23 ~~(a)~~ (d) "Performance evaluation" means a document that includes
24 domains of competency relevant to the practice of a physician assistant,
25 uses more than one modality of assessment to evaluate the domains, and
26 includes consideration of the physician assistant's education, training,
27 experience, competency, and knowledge of the ~~specialty~~ PRACTICE AREA

1 in which the physician assistant is engaged.

2 (b) ~~"Practice agreement" means a written agreement between a~~
3 ~~physician assistant and a supervising physician that defines the~~
4 ~~communication and decision-making process by which the physician~~
5 ~~assistant and the supervising physician provide care to patients.~~

6 (c) ~~"Supervisory plan" means a document that allows a~~
7 ~~supervising physician to follow the ongoing professional development of~~
8 ~~a physician assistant's clinical practice, promotes a collaborative~~
9 ~~relationship between a physician assistant and his or her supervising~~
10 ~~physicians, and allows a supervising physician to address any deficiencies~~
11 ~~that have been identified in the physician assistant's clinical competencies~~
12 ~~during the initial performance period.~~

13 (e) "PHYSICIAN" MEANS A PHYSICIAN LICENSED IN GOOD STANDING
14 PURSUANT TO THIS ARTICLE 240 OR ARTICLE 290 OF THIS TITLE 12,
15 INCLUDING A PHYSICIAN IN A PHYSICIAN GROUP.

16 (2) (a) A physician assistant licensed pursuant to this article 240
17 ~~who has practiced for less than three years is subject to the following~~
18 ~~supervisory requirements~~ SHALL ENTER INTO A COLLABORATIVE
19 AGREEMENT WITH AN EMPLOYER OR A PHYSICIAN. THE PHYSICIAN
20 ENTERING INTO A COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT MUST BE ACTIVELY
21 PRACTICING IN COLORADO WITH A REGULAR AND RELIABLE PHYSICAL
22 PRESENCE IN COLORADO. THE COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT MUST
23 INCLUDE:

24 (a) (I) ~~The physician assistant's first one hundred sixty working~~
25 ~~hours shall be supervised by a supervising physician who works at the~~
26 ~~same location as the physician assistant. The physician assistant's primary~~
27 ~~supervising physician shall provide at least forty hours of supervision, and~~

1 ~~the remaining hours may be provided by a secondary supervising~~
2 ~~physician who is designated by the primary supervising physician. THE~~
3 ~~PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S NAME, LICENSE NUMBER, AND PRIMARY LOCATION~~
4 ~~OF PRACTICE;~~

5 (b) (II) ~~After the physician assistant completes one hundred sixty~~
6 ~~working hours, a supervising physician must remain available to the~~
7 ~~physician assistant via a telecommunication device at all times when the~~
8 ~~physician assistant is working. THE SIGNATURE OF THE PHYSICIAN~~
9 ~~ASSISTANT AND THE PHYSICIAN, OR A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EMPLOYER~~
10 ~~WITH WHOM THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HAS ENTERED INTO THE~~
11 ~~COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT;~~

12 (c) (III) ~~Not more than thirty days after the physician assistant~~
13 ~~completes one hundred sixty working hours, the primary supervising~~
14 ~~physician shall complete an initial performance assessment and a~~
15 ~~supervisory plan for the physician assistant. A DESCRIPTION OF THE~~
16 ~~PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S PROCESS FOR COLLABORATION, THE DEGREE OF~~
17 ~~WHICH MUST BE DETERMINED AT THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S PRIMARY~~
18 ~~LOCATION OF PRACTICE AND MAY INCLUDE:~~

19 (A) DECISIONS MADE BY THE EMPLOYER OR PHYSICIAN WITH
20 WHOM THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HAS ENTERED INTO A COLLABORATIVE
21 AGREEMENT; AND

22 (B) THE CREDENTIALING OR PRIVILEGING REQUIREMENTS OF THE
23 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S PRIMARY LOCATION OF PRACTICE;

24 (IV) A DESCRIPTION OF THE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION PROCESS,
25 WHICH MAY BE COMPLETED BY THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S EMPLOYER IN
26 ACCORDANCE WITH A PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND REVIEW PROCESS
27 ESTABLISHED BY THE EMPLOYER; AND

1 (V) ANY ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO THE PHYSICIAN
2 ASSISTANT'S PRACTICE REQUIRED BY THE EMPLOYER OR PHYSICIAN
3 ENTERING INTO THE COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT, INCLUDING
4 ADDITIONAL LEVELS OF OVERSIGHT, LIMITATIONS ON AUTONOMOUS
5 JUDGMENT, AND THE DESIGNATION OF A PRIMARY CONTACT FOR
6 COLLABORATION.

7 (b) (I) FOR A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT WITH FEWER THAN FIVE
8 THOUSAND PRACTICE HOURS, OR A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT CHANGING
9 PRACTICE AREAS WITH FEWER THAN THREE THOUSAND PRACTICE HOURS
10 IN THE NEW PRACTICE AREA, THE COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT IS A
11 SUPERVISORY AGREEMENT THAT MUST INCLUDE THE PROVISIONS
12 DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTIONS (2)(a)(III)(A), (2)(a)(III)(B), (2)(a)(IV), AND
13 (2)(a)(V) OF THIS SECTION AND MUST ALSO:

14 (A) REQUIRE THAT COLLABORATION DURING THE FIRST ONE
15 HUNDRED SIXTY PRACTICE HOURS BE COMPLETED IN PERSON OR THROUGH
16 TECHNOLOGY, AS PERMITTED BY THE PHYSICIAN, PHYSICIAN GROUP, OR
17 EMPLOYER WITH WHOM THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HAS ENTERED INTO THE
18 COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT;

19 (B) INCORPORATE ELEMENTS DEFINING THE EXPECTED NATURE OF
20 COLLABORATION, INCLUDING: THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S EXPECTED
21 AREA OF PRACTICE; EXPECTATIONS REGARDING SUPPORT AND
22 CONSULTATION FROM THE PHYSICIAN, PHYSICIAN GROUP, OR EMPLOYER
23 WITH WHOM THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HAS ENTERED INTO A
24 COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT; METHODS AND MODES OF COMMUNICATION
25 AND COLLABORATION; AND ANY OTHER PERTINENT ELEMENTS OF
26 COLLABORATIVE, TEAM-BASED PRACTICE APPLICABLE TO THE PHYSICIAN
27 ASSISTANT'S PRACTICE OR ESTABLISHED BY THE EMPLOYER; AND

1 (C) REQUIRE A PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND DISCUSSION OF
2 THE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION WITH THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT AFTER
3 THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HAS WORKED WITH THE EMPLOYER FOR SIX
4 MONTHS, AGAIN AFTER THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HAS WORKED WITH THE
5 EMPLOYER FOR TWELVE MONTHS, AND ADDITIONAL EVALUATION
6 THEREAFTER AS DETERMINED BY THE PHYSICIAN OR EMPLOYER WITH
7 WHOM THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HAS ENTERED INTO THE COLLABORATIVE
8 AGREEMENT.

9 (II) THE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION MAY BE COMPLETED BY THE
10 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S EMPLOYER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
11 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND REVIEW PROCESS ESTABLISHED BY THE
12 EMPLOYER; EXCEPT THAT THE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION MUST BE
13 COMPLETED WITH AT LEAST THE MINIMUM FREQUENCY REQUIRED IN
14 SECTION (2)(b)(I)(C) OF THIS SECTION.

15 (III) AFTER A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HAS COMPLETED FIVE
16 THOUSAND PRACTICE HOURS, THE ADDITIONAL COLLABORATIVE
17 AGREEMENT REQUIREMENTS DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION (2)(b) NO
18 LONGER APPLY.

19 ~~(3) (a) The supervision of a physician assistant licensed pursuant~~
20 ~~to this article 240 who has practiced in this state for three years or more~~
21 ~~is determined by a practice agreement that shall be created by the~~
22 ~~physician assistant and his or her primary supervising physician not later~~
23 ~~than thirty days after the physician assistant begins practicing under the~~
24 ~~supervision of the primary supervising physician. A practice agreement~~
25 ~~must include~~ A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT MAY PROVIDE THE BOARD WITH A
26 SIGNED AFFIDAVIT OUTLINING PRACTICE EXPERIENCE FOR THE PURPOSES
27 OF MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2)(b) OF THIS

1 SECTION, AS APPLICABLE, IF THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT:

2 (a) HELD AN UNENCUMBERED LICENSE IN ANOTHER STATE OR
3 TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES BEFORE BECOMING LICENSED IN THIS
4 STATE PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-240-113; OR

5 (b) WAS INITIALLY LICENSED IN THIS STATE PRIOR TO THE
6 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (3), AS AMENDED.

7 ~~(I) A process by which a physician assistant and a supervising
8 physician communicate and make decisions concerning patients' medical
9 treatment, which process utilizes the knowledge and skills of the
10 physician assistant and the supervising physician based on their respective
11 education, training, and experience;~~

12 ~~(II) A protocol for designating an alternative physician for
13 consultation when the supervising physician is unavailable for
14 consultation;~~

15 ~~(III) The signatures of the physician assistant and supervising
16 physician; and~~

17 ~~(IV) A termination provision that allows the physician assistant
18 or the supervising physician to terminate the practice agreement after
19 providing written notice of his or her intent to do so at least thirty days
20 before the date of termination. If a practice agreement is terminated, the
21 physician assistant and the physician assistant's primary supervising
22 physician shall create a new practice agreement within forty-five days
23 after the date the previous practice agreement was terminated.~~

24 (b) In addition to the components described in subsection (3)(a)
25 of this section, a practice agreement may impose conditions concerning
26 specific duties, procedures, or drugs.

27 (c) If the terms or conditions of a practice agreement change, both

1 the physician assistant and the supervising physician shall sign and date
2 the updated practice agreement.

3 (4) A physician assistant licensed pursuant to this article 240 who
4 has practiced for at least twelve months and who is making a substantive
5 change in his or her scope of practice or practice area is subject to the
6 following supervisory requirements:

7 (a) The physician assistant's first eighty working hours shall be
8 supervised by a supervising physician who works at the same location as
9 the physician assistant. The physician assistant's primary supervising
10 physician shall provide at least twenty hours of supervision, and the
11 remaining hours may be provided by a secondary supervising physician
12 who is designated by the primary supervising physician.

13 (b) After the physician assistant completes eighty working hours,
14 a supervising physician shall remain available to the physician assistant
15 via a telecommunication device at all times when the physician assistant
16 is working.

17 (c) After the physician assistant has worked for six months, and
18 again after the physician assistant has worked for twelve months, the
19 primary supervising physician shall complete a performance assessment
20 and discuss the performance assessment with the physician assistant.

21 (5) (a) A physician assistant licensed pursuant to this article 240
22 who has practiced for at least three years may be liable for damages
23 resulting from negligence in providing care to a patient, except that a
24 physician assistant is not liable for any damages that occur as a result of
25 the physician assistant following a direct order from a supervising
26 physician.

27 (b) A physician assistant who has been practicing for at least three

1 years shall comply with the financial responsibility requirements specified
2 in section 13-64-301 (1) and rules adopted by the board pursuant to that
3 section.

4 (c) A physician assistant's supervising physician may be liable for
5 damages resulting from the physician assistant's negligence in providing
6 care to a patient if the physician assistant has not practiced for at least
7 three years as described in subsection (5)(a) of this section.

8 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-240-119, **amend**
9 (2)(c) as follows:

10 **12-240-119. Reentry license - period of inactivity -**
11 **international medical graduate - competency assessment - board**
12 **rules - conversion to full license.** (2) (c) If, based on the assessment
13 and, IF PRESCRIBED, after completion of an educational program, if
14 ~~prescribed~~, the board determines that the applicant is competent and
15 qualified to practice medicine without supervision, ~~or~~ practice as a
16 physician assistant, or PRACTICE as an anesthesiologist assistant with
17 supervision, as specified in this article 240, the board may convert the
18 reentry license to a full license to practice medicine, practice as a
19 physician assistant, or practice as an anesthesiologist assistant, as
20 applicable, under this article 240.

21 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-240-122, **amend**
22 (1) as follows:

23 **12-240-122. Prescriptions - requirement to advise patients.**
24 (1) A physician OR PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT licensed under this article 240
25 or a physician assistant licensed by the board who has been delegated the
26 authority to prescribe medication, may advise the physician's or the
27 physician assistant's patients of their option to have the symptom or

1 purpose for which a prescription is being issued included on the
2 prescription order.

3 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-240-128, **amend**
4 (7)(c) as follows:

5 **12-240-128. Physician training licenses.** (7) A physician
6 training licensee may practice medicine as defined by this article 240 with
7 the following restrictions:

8 (c) A physician training licensee shall not: ~~have the authority to~~

9 (I) Delegate the rendering of medical services to a person who is
10 not licensed to practice medicine pursuant to section 12-240-107 (3)(l);

11 OR

12 (II) ~~and shall not have the authority to supervise~~ ENTER INTO A
13 COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT WITH physician assistants as ~~provided by~~
14 ~~section 12-240-107 (6)~~ DESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 12-240-107 (6) AND
15 12-240-114.5.

16 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-280-103, **amend**
17 (39)(c)(II)(B) as follows:

18 **12-280-103. Definitions - rules.** As used in this article 280, unless
19 the context otherwise requires or the term is otherwise defined in another
20 part of this article 280:

21 (39) "Practice of pharmacy" means:

22 (c) The provision of a therapeutic interchange selection or a
23 therapeutically equivalent selection to a patient if, during the patient's stay
24 at a nursing care facility or a long-term acute care hospital licensed under
25 part 1 of article 3 of title 25, the selection has been approved for the
26 patient:

27 (II) By one of the following health-care providers:

1 (B) A physician assistant licensed under section 12-240-113; ~~if the~~
2 ~~physician assistant is under the supervision of a licensed physician; or~~

3 **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-280-502, **amend**
4 (1)(b)(II) as follows:

5 **12-280-502. Therapeutic interchange and therapeutically**
6 **equivalent selections for nursing care facility or long-term acute care**
7 **hospital patients - rules.** (1) A pharmacy used by a nursing care facility
8 or a long-term acute care hospital licensed under part 1 of article 3 of title
9 25 may make a therapeutic interchange or a therapeutically equivalent
10 selection for a patient if, during the patient's stay at the facility, the
11 selection has been approved for the patient:

12 (b) By one of the following health-care providers:

13 (II) A physician assistant licensed under section 12-240-113; ~~if the~~
14 ~~physician assistant is under the supervision of a licensed physician; or~~

15 **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-290-110, **amend**
16 (5) as follows:

17 **12-290-110. Podiatry training license.** (5) A person with a
18 podiatric training license shall ~~only~~ practice podiatry ONLY under the
19 supervision of a licensed podiatrist or a physician licensed to practice
20 medicine within the residency program. A person with a podiatry training
21 license shall not delegate podiatric or medical services to a person who
22 is not licensed to practice podiatry or medicine and shall not have the
23 authority to ~~supervise~~ COLLABORATE WITH physician assistants.

24 **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 12-290-117
25 as follows:

26 **12-290-117. Use of physician assistants - collaboration**
27 **requirements - affidavits of practice experience - rules - definitions.**

1 (1) ~~A person licensed under the laws of this state to practice podiatry may~~
2 ~~delegate to a physician assistant licensed by the Colorado medical board~~
3 ~~pursuant to section 12-240-113 the authority to~~ A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT
4 LICENSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 240 OF THIS TITLE 12 MAY perform acts
5 that constitute the practice of podiatry to the extent and in the manner
6 authorized by rules promulgated by the ~~Colorado podiatry~~ board. The acts
7 shall be consistent with sound practices of podiatry. ~~Each prescription for~~
8 ~~a controlled substance, as defined in section 18-18-102 (5), issued by a~~
9 ~~physician assistant must have the name of the physician assistant's~~
10 ~~supervising podiatrist printed on the prescription.~~ For all other ALL
11 prescriptions issued by a physician assistant MUST INCLUDE THE
12 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S NAME, the name and address of the health facility,
13 and, if the health facility is a ~~multi-speciality~~ MULTISPECIALTY
14 organization, the name and address of the ~~speciality~~ SPECIALTY clinic
15 within the health facility where the physician assistant is practicing. ~~must~~
16 ~~be imprinted on the prescription.~~ Nothing in this section limits the ability
17 ~~of otherwise licensed health personnel to perform delegated acts.~~ The
18 dispensing of prescription medication by a physician assistant is subject
19 to section 12-280-120 (6).

20 (2) ~~If the authority to perform an act is delegated pursuant to~~
21 ~~subsection (1) of this section, the act shall not be performed except under~~
22 ~~the personal and responsible direction and supervision of a person~~
23 ~~licensed under the laws of this state to practice podiatry, and the person~~
24 ~~shall not be responsible for the direction and supervision of more than~~
25 ~~four physician assistants at any one time without specific approval of the~~
26 ~~Colorado podiatry board.~~ The board may define appropriate direction and
27 ~~supervision pursuant to rules~~ PRIOR TO PRACTICING PODIATRY, A

1 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT MUST ENTER INTO A COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT
2 WITH A LICENSED PODIATRIST.

3 (3) The provisions of sections 12-240-107 (6), ~~and~~ 12-240-113,
4 AND 12-240-114.5 governing physician assistants under the "Colorado
5 Medical Practice Act" ~~shall~~ apply to physician assistants under this
6 section.

7 **SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-64-301, **amend**
8 (1) introductory portion as follows:

9 **13-64-301. Financial responsibility.** (1) As a condition of active
10 licensure or authority to practice in this state, every physician, dentist,
11 dental therapist, or dental hygienist; every physician assistant; ~~who has~~
12 ~~been practicing for at least three years;~~ and every health-care institution
13 as defined in section 13-64-202, except as provided in section
14 13-64-303.5, that provides health-care services shall establish financial
15 responsibility, as follows:

16 **SECTION 11.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 15-18.7-103,
17 **amend** (1) introductory portion and (1)(i) as follows:

18 **15-18.7-103. Medical orders for scope of treatment forms -**
19 **form contents.** (1) A medical orders for scope of treatment form ~~shall~~
20 MUST include the following information concerning the adult whose
21 medical treatment is the subject of the medical orders for scope of
22 treatment form:

23 (i) The signature of the adult's physician, advanced practice
24 registered nurse, or ~~if under the supervision or authority of the physician,~~
25 physician assistant.

26 **SECTION 12.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 15-18.7-104,
27 **amend** (5) as follows:

1 **15-18.7-104. Duty to comply with medical orders for scope of**
2 **treatment form - immunity - effect on criminal charges against**
3 **another person - transferability.** (5) An adult's physician, advanced
4 practice registered nurse, or if ~~under the supervision of the physician,~~
5 physician assistant may provide an oral confirmation to a health-care
6 provider who shall annotate on the medical orders for scope of treatment
7 form the time and date of the oral confirmation and the name and license
8 number of the physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician
9 assistant. The physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician
10 assistant shall countersign the annotation of the oral confirmation on the
11 medical orders for scope of treatment form within a time period that
12 satisfies any applicable state law or within thirty days, whichever period
13 is less, after providing the oral confirmation. The signature of the
14 physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant may
15 be provided by photocopy, fax, or electronic means. A medical orders for
16 scope of treatment form with annotated oral confirmation, and a
17 photocopy, fax, or other electronic reproduction ~~thereof~~ OF THE FORM,
18 shall be given the same force and effect as the original form signed by the
19 physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant.

20 **SECTION 13.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-21-803, **amend**
21 (6) as follows:

22 **23-21-803. Definitions.** As used in this part 8, unless the context
23 otherwise requires:

24 (6) "Physician assistant" means a person licensed as a physician
25 assistant by the Colorado medical board in accordance with section
26 12-240-113 who is authorized, in accordance with section 12-240-107
27 (6), to perform acts constituting the practice of medicine, including

1 prescribing controlled substances. ~~and who is under the supervision of a~~
2 ~~physician trained in MAT.~~

3 **SECTION 14. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act
4 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the
5 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except
6 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V
7 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this
8 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take
9 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in
10 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the
11 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.