

CHAPTER 187

PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

SENATE BILL 10-176

BY SENATOR(S) Tochtrop, Boyd, Newell;
also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Gagliardi, Fischer, Schafer S., Soper, Summers, Todd, Vigil.

AN ACT**CONCERNING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR INCLUSION OF A PROFESSIONAL NURSE ON THE ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE REGISTRY.**

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

SECTION 1. 12-38-111.5 (3), (4) (c), and (4) (d), Colorado Revised Statutes, are amended, and the said 12-38-111.5 (4) is further amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW PARAGRAPH, to read:

12-38-111.5. Requirements for advanced practice nurse registration - legislative declaration - definition - advanced practice registry. (3) The board shall establish the advanced practice registry and shall require that a nurse applying for registration identify ~~such nurse's area of specialty~~ HIS OR HER ROLE AND POPULATION FOCUS. The board shall establish reasonable criteria for designation of specific ~~specialties~~ ROLE AND POPULATION FOCI based on currently accepted professional standards. A nurse who is included in the advanced practice registry has the right to use the title "advanced practice nurse" or, if authorized by the board, to use the title "certified nurse midwife", "clinical nurse specialist", "certified registered nurse anesthetist", or "nurse practitioner". These titles may be abbreviated as "A.P.N.", "C.N.M.", "C.N.S.", "C.R.N.A.", or "N.P.", respectively. It is unlawful for any person to use any of the titles or abbreviations listed in this subsection (3) unless included in the registry and authorized by the board to do so.

(4) (c) On and after July 1, 2008, the requirements for inclusion in the advanced practice registry shall include the successful completion of ~~a~~ AN APPROPRIATE graduate degree ~~in the appropriate specialty~~ AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD; except that individuals who are included in the registry as of June 30, 2008, but have not successfully completed such degree, may thereafter continue to be included in the registry and to use the appropriate title and abbreviation.

Capital letters indicate new material added to existing statutes; dashes through words indicate deletions from existing statutes and such material not part of act.

(d) On and after July 1, 2010, in addition to the requirements of paragraph (c) of this subsection (4), a professional nurse shall obtain national certification from a nationally recognized accrediting agency, as defined by the board by rule, in the appropriate ~~specialty~~ ROLE AND POPULATION FOCUS in order to be included in the advanced practice registry; except that professional nurses who are included in the registry as of June 30, 2010, but have not obtained such national certification, may thereafter continue to be included in the registry and to use the appropriate title and abbreviation.

(e) A PROFESSIONAL NURSE MAY BE INCLUDED IN THE ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTRY BY ENDORSEMENT IF THE PROFESSIONAL NURSE MEETS ONE OF THE FOLLOWING QUALIFYING STANDARDS:

(I) THE PROFESSIONAL NURSE IS RECOGNIZED AS AN ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE IN ANOTHER STATE OR JURISDICTION AND HAS PRACTICED AS AN ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSE FOR AT LEAST TWO OF THE LAST FIVE YEARS IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE DATE OF APPLICATION FOR INCLUSION IN THE ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTRY; OR

(II) THE PROFESSIONAL NURSE HOLDS NATIONAL CERTIFICATION AS PROVIDED IN PARAGRAPH (d) OF THIS SUBSECTION (4) AND POSSESSES AN APPROPRIATE GRADUATE DEGREE AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD.

SECTION 2. 12-38-111.6 (4.5) (a) (I) and (4.5) (a) (III), Colorado Revised Statutes, are amended to read:

12-38-111.6. Prescriptive authority - advanced practice nurses - rules - repeal. (4.5) (a) On or after July 1, 2010, or, if the director of the division of registrations adopts rules pursuant to subparagraph (II) of paragraph (f) of this subsection (4.5), on or after July 2, 2010, an advanced practice nurse applying for prescriptive authority shall provide evidence to the board of the following:

(I) ~~AN APPROPRIATE graduate degree in a nursing specialty~~ AS DETERMINED BY THE BOARD PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-38-111.5 (4) (c);

(III) National certification from a nationally recognized accrediting agency, as defined by the board by rule pursuant to section 12-38-111.5 (4) (d), ~~in the specialty of the advanced practice nurse~~; unless the board grants an exception;

SECTION 3. Safety clause. The general assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, and safety.

Approved: April 29, 2010