

2020 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 702

BY REPRESENTATIVE BAGLEY

HEALTH SERVICES: Provides with respect to the practice of physician assistants

1 AN ACT

2 To amend and reenact R.S. 37:961(4), relative to physician assistants; to provide definitions;
3 and to provide for related matters.

4 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

5 Section 1. R.S. 37:961(4) is hereby amended and reenacted to read as follows:

6 §961. Definitions

7 As used in this Part:

8 * * *

9 (4) The "practice of practical nursing" means the performance for
10 compensation of any acts, not requiring the education, training, and preparation
11 required in professional nursing, in the care, treatment, or observation of persons
12 who are ill, injured, or infirm and for the maintenance of the health of others and the
13 promotion of health care, including the administration of medications and treatments
14 or in on-job training or supervising licensed practical nurses, subordinate personnel,
15 or instructing patients consistent with the licensed practical nurse's education and
16 preparation, under the direction of a licensed physician, optometrist, or dentist acting
17 individually or in his capacity as a member of the medical staff, ~~or~~ registered nurse,
18 or physician assistant. The licensed practical nurse may perform any of the foregoing
19 duties, and with appropriate training may perform additional specified acts which are
20 authorized by the Louisiana State Board of Practical Nurse Examiners when directed

1 to do so by the licensed physician, optometrist, or dentist acting individually or in
2 his capacity as a member of the medical staff, ~~or~~ registered nurse, or physician
3 assistant.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HB 702 Engrossed

2020 Regular Session

Bagley

Abstract: Provides for physician assistants who oversee the duties of a licensed practical nurse.

Present law provides that a licensed practical nurse shall administer their job duties under the direction of a licensed physician, optometrist, or dentist acting individually or in his capacity as a member of the medical staff or registered nurse.

Proposed law retains present law and adds physician assistant as an individual who may provide direction to a licensed practical nurse to perform their necessary duties.

(Amends R.S. 37:961(4))

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Health and Welfare to the original bill:

1. Deletes provisions of proposed law that would have required physicians to collaborate with physician assistants in providing healthcare services.
2. Requires only physician assistants to review the duties of a licensed practical nurse.