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3 SENATE HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR SB46
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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill would authorize a certified
9 registered nurse practitioner and a certified nurse
10 midwife to have signature authority for medical
11 forms within the scope of practice of the health
12 care professional.
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14 A BILL
15 TO BE ENTITLED
16 AN ACT
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18 To authorize certified registered nurse
19 practitioners and certified nurse midwives to have signature
20 authority to sign health care forms and documents within the
21 scope of practice of the health care professional.

22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

23 Section 1. (a) When a provision of any law or rule
24 requires a signature, certification, stamp, verification,
25 affidavit, or endorsement by a physician the document shall be
26 deemed to authorize a signature, certification, stamp,
27 verification, affidavit, or endorsement by a certified

1 registered nurse practitioner or certified nurse midwife for
2 the items listed in this section. The authority in this
3 section for a certified registered nurse practitioner and a
4 certified nurse midwife shall be subject to an active
5 collaboration agreement. This section applies to all of the
6 following:

7 (1) Certification of disability for patients to
8 receive disabled parking tags or placards.

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

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

13 1. Physicals for bus drivers in this state using
14 State of Alabama forms.

15 2. Physicals to verify eligibility for students to
16 participate in the Special Olympics.

17 3. Employment and pre-employment physicals for
18 Transportation Security Agency (TSA) employees at an airport
19 or for governmental employees such as firefighters and law
20 enforcement officers.

21 4. Adoptive parent applications.

22 5. College or trade school physicals.

23 6. Boy Scout or Girl Scout physicals or physical
24 required by similar organizations.

25 b. Forms excusing a potential jury member due to an
26 illness.

1 c. Forms relating to absenteeism for employment or
2 school purposes, including, but not limited to, documents
3 associated with the federal Family and Medical Leave Act.

4 d. Authorizations for durable medical equipment.

5 e. Authorizations for diabetic testing supplies.

6 f. Authorization for diabetic shoes.

7 g. Home health recertification orders after initial
8 certification.

9 h. Within the state Medicaid system, any and all
10 forms for the ordering of medications, nutritional
11 supplements, or infant formulas, or referrals to providers of
12 medical specialties, home health services, and physical or
13 occupation therapy.

14 i. Death certificates.

15 j. Forms, including physical examination forms,
16 needed for certifications in residential or inpatient
17 dwellings within the Department of Mental Health.

18 k. Forms for ambulance transport.

19 l. Forms for donor breast milk.

20 m. Required documentation allowing a diabetic to
21 renew or obtain a driver's license.

22 (b) Additional forms may be approved by rule under
23 the Alabama Administrative Procedure Act by the State Board of
24 Medical Examiners, after consulting with the state
25 professional society of nurse practitioners, or the state
26 professional society of nurse midwives, or the state
27 professional society of physicians, or the Joint Committee of

1 the State Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing
2 for Advanced Practice Nurses as established by Section
3 34-21-81, Code of Alabama 1975, whichever is appropriate.

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

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

10 Section 2. All laws or parts of laws which conflict
11 with this act are repealed.

12 Section 3. This act shall become effective
13 immediately following its passage and approval by the
14 Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.