

1 SB46
2 189329-1
3 By Senator McClendon
4 RFD: Health and Human Services
5 First Read: 09-JAN-18
6 PFD: 01/04/2018

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8 SYNOPSIS: This bill would authorize a certified
9 registered nurse practitioner, a certified nurse
10 midwife, and a physician assistant to have
11 signature authority for medical forms within the
12 scope of practice of the health 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, certified nurse midwives, and physician
20 assistants to have signature authority to sign health care
21 forms and documents within the scope of practice of the health
22 care professional.

23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

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

1 verification, affidavit, or endorsement by a certified
2 registered nurse practitioner, certified nurse midwife, or
3 physician assistant. This section applies to any forms or
4 certifications signed by a certified registered nurse
5 practitioner, a certified nurse midwife, or a physician
6 assistant within the scope of his or her practice, including,
7 but not limited to, all of the following types of forms and
8 certifications:

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

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

12 a. Documents that require a complete history and
13 physical examination consistent with the examining provider's
14 scope of practice and certification including, but not limited
15 to any of the following:

16 1. Physicals for bus drivers in this state.

17 2. Physicals to verify eligibility for students to
18 participate in the Special Olympics.

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

23 4. Adoptive parent applications.

24 5. College or trade school physicals.

25 6. Boy Scout or Girl Scout physicals or physical
26 required by similar organizations.

1 7. Other forms as deemed appropriate by the Joint
2 Committee of the Alabama Board of Nursing and the Alabama
3 Board of Medical Examiners.

4 b. Forms relating to do not resuscitate orders.

5 c. Forms excusing a potential jury member due to an
6 illness.

7 d. Birth certificates.

8 e. Workers' compensation forms.

9 f. Forms relating to absenteeism for employment or
10 school purposes, including, but not limited to, documents
11 associated with the federal Family and Medical Leave Act.

12 g. Authorizations for durable medical equipment.

13 h. Authorizations for diabetic supplies including,
14 but not limited to, shoes.

15 i. Home health recertification orders.

16 j. Any and all forms for the ordering of
17 medications, nutritional supplements, or infant formulas, or
18 referrals to providers of medical specialties, home health
19 services, and physical or occupation therapy within the state
20 Medicaid system.

21 k. In the case of a death certificate, one of the
22 two signatures required for a death certificate.

23 l. Forms, including physical examination forms,
24 needed for certifications in residential or inpatient
25 dwellings within the Department of Mental Health.

26 m. Forms for ambulance transport.

27 n. Forms for donor breast milk.

1 o. Required documentation allowing a diabetic to
2 renew or obtain a driver's license.

3 p. Forms related to assessments in skilled nursing
4 facilities for admission and recertification to the extent
5 allowed by the law.

6 (b) This section shall not be construed to expand
7 the scope of practice for any certified registered nurse
8 practitioner, certified nurse midwife, or physician assistant.

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

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