**South Carolina General Assembly**

124th Session, 2021-2022

**A55, R69, S503**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

General Bill

Sponsors: Senator Hutto

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Introduced in the Senate on January 28, 2021

Introduced in the House on April 6, 2021

Last Amended on March 30, 2021

Passed by the General Assembly on May 6, 2021

Governor's Action: May 17, 2021, Signed

Summary: Physician assistants and advanced practice registered nurses

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

1/28/2021 Senate Introduced and read first time ([Senate Journal‑page 5](file:///h:\sj\20210128.docx))

1/28/2021 Senate Referred to Committee on **Medical Affairs** ([Senate Journal‑page 5](file:///h:\sj\20210128.docx))

3/23/2021 Senate Recalled from Committee on **Medical Affairs** ([Senate Journal‑page 2](file:///h:\sj\20210323.docx))

3/25/2021 Senate Read second time ([Senate Journal‑page 19](file:///h:\sj\20210325.docx))

3/25/2021 Senate Roll call Ayes‑39 Nays‑0 ([Senate Journal‑page 19](file:///h:\sj\20210325.docx))

3/30/2021 Senate Amended ([Senate Journal‑page 10](file:///h:\sj\20210330.docx))

3/30/2021 Senate Read third time and sent to House ([Senate Journal‑page 10](file:///h:\sj\20210330.docx))

4/6/2021 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 128](file:///h:\hj\20210406.docx))

4/6/2021 House Referred to Committee on **Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs** ([House Journal‑page 128](file:///h:\hj\20210406.docx))

4/29/2021 House Committee report: Favorable **Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs** ([House Journal‑page 80](file:///h:\hj\20210429.docx))

5/5/2021 House Read second time ([House Journal‑page 15](file:///h:\hj\20210505.docx))

5/5/2021 House Roll call Yeas‑112 Nays‑0 ([House Journal‑page 16](file:///h:\hj\20210505.docx))

5/6/2021 House Read third time and enrolled ([House Journal‑page 15](file:///h:\hj\20210506.docx))

5/13/2021 Ratified R 69

5/17/2021 Signed By Governor

6/1/2021 Effective date 07/16/21

6/1/2021 Act No.  55

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**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

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[3/23/2021](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\503_20210323.docx)

[3/30/2021](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\503_20210330.docx)

[4/29/2021](file:///p:\pprever\2021-22\503_20210429.docx)

(A55, R69, S503)

**AN ACT** **TO AMEND SECTION 40‑33‑34, AS AMENDED, CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, RELATING TO MEDICAL ACTS THAT ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES MAY PERFORM, SO AS TO INCLUDE ISSUING ORDERS FOR CERTAIN HOME HEALTH SERVICES; TO AMEND SECTION 40‑47‑935, AS AMENDED, RELATING TO MEDICAL ACTS THAT PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS MAY PERFORM, SO AS TO INCLUDE ISSUING ORDERS FOR CERTAIN HOME HEALTH SERVICES; TO AMEND SECTION 44‑69‑20, RELATING TO DEFINITIONS IN THE LICENSURE OF HOME HEALTH AGENCIES ACT, SO AS TO INCLUDE ORDERS FOR PART‑TIME OR INTERMITTENT SKILLED NURSING CARE ISSUED BY ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES AND PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT; AND TO MAKE THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT EFFECTIVE SIXTY DAYS AFTER APPROVAL BY THE GOVERNOR.**

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

**Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, permitted medical acts**

SECTION 1. Section 40‑33‑34(D)(2) of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 87 of 2019, is further amended to read:

“(2) Notwithstanding any provisions of state law other than this chapter and Chapter 47, and to the extent permitted by federal law, an APRN may perform the following medical acts unless otherwise provided in the practice agreement:

(a) provide noncontrolled prescription drugs at an entity that provides free medical care for indigent patients;

(b) certify that a student is unable to attend school but may benefit from receiving instruction given in his home or hospital;

(c) refer a patient to physical therapy for treatment;

(d) pronounce death, certify the manner and cause of death, and sign death certificates pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 63, Title 44 and Chapter 8, Title 32;

(e) issue an order for a patient to receive appropriate services from a licensed hospice as defined in Chapter 71, Title 44;

(f) certify that an individual is handicapped and declare that the handicap is temporary or permanent for purposes of the individual’s application for a placard;

(g) execute a do not resuscitate order pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 78, Title 44; and

(h) issue an order for home health services pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 69, Title 44.”

**Physician Assistants, advanced medical acts**

SECTION 2. Section 40‑47‑935(B) of the 1976 Code, as last amended by Act 32 of 2019, is further amended to read:

“(B) Notwithstanding any provisions of state law other than this chapter, and to the extent permitted by federal law, a PA may perform the following medical acts unless otherwise provided in the scope of practice guidelines:

(1) provide noncontrolled prescription drugs at an entity that provides free medical care for indigent patients;

(2) certify that a student is unable to attend school but may benefit from receiving instruction given in his home or hospital;

(3) refer a patient to physical therapy for treatment;

(4) pronounce death, certify the manner and cause of death, and sign death certificates pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 63, Title 44 and Chapter 8, Title 32;

(5) issue an order for a patient to receive appropriate services from a licensed hospice as defined in Chapter 71, Title 44;

(6) certify that an individual is handicapped and declare that the handicap is temporary or permanent for the purposes of the individual’s application for a placard;

(7) execute a do not resuscitate order pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 78, Title 44; and

(8) issue an order for home health services pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 69, Title 44.”

**Licensure of Home Health Services Act, definition revised**

SECTION 3. Section 44‑69‑20(5)(a) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

“(a) Part‑time or intermittent skilled nursing care as ordered by a physician, an APRN pursuant to Section 40‑33‑34(D)(2)(h), or a PA pursuant to Section 40‑47‑935(B)(8) and as provided by or under the supervision of a registered nurse and at least one other service listed below;”

**Time effective**

SECTION 4. This act takes effect sixty days after the approval of the Governor.

Ratified the 13th day of May, 2021.

Approved the 17th day of May, 2021.

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