

First Regular Session  
Seventy-fourth General Assembly  
STATE OF COLORADO

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. 23-0226.01 Yelana Love x2295

SENATE BILL 23-083

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SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Winter F. and Simpson,

HOUSE SPONSORSHIP

(None),

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Senate Committees  
Health & Human Services

House Committees

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A BILL FOR AN ACT

101 CONCERNING AN EXPANSION OF A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S ABILITY TO  
102 PRACTICE, AND, IN CONNECTION THEREWITH, CHANGING THE  
103 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT AND A  
104 PHYSICIAN OR PODIATRIST FROM SUPERVISION TO  
105 COLLABORATION.

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Bill Summary

*(Note: This summary applies to this bill as introduced and does not reflect any amendments that may be subsequently adopted. If this bill passes third reading in the house of introduction, a bill summary that applies to the reengrossed version of this bill will be available at <http://leg.colorado.gov>.)*

The bill modifies the relationship between a physician assistant and a physician or podiatrist by removing the requirement that a physician

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.  
Capital letters or bold & italic numbers indicate new material to be added to existing law.  
Dashes through the words or numbers indicate deletions from existing law.

assistant be supervised by a physician or podiatrist. Instead, a physician assistant must enter into a collaborative agreement with an employer, physician, or podiatrist.

The collaborative agreement must include:

- The physician assistant's name, license number, and primary location of practice;
- The signature of the physician assistant and the person with whom the physician assistant has entered into the collaborative agreement;
- A general description of the physician assistant's process for collaboration;
- A description of the performance evaluation process, which may be completed by the physician assistant's employer in accordance with a performance evaluation and review process established by the employer; and
- Any additional requirements specific to the physician assistant's practice required by the employer, physician, or podiatrist entering into the collaborative agreement, including additional levels of oversight, limitations on autonomous judgment, and the designation of a primary contact for collaboration.

For a physician assistant with fewer than 3,000 practice hours, the collaborative agreement must also:

- Require that collaboration during the first 160 practice hours be completed in person or through technology;
- Incorporate elements defining the expected nature of collaboration; and
- Require a performance evaluation and discussion of the performance evaluation with the physician assistant.

The bill also requires physician assistants who have been practicing for less than 3 years to satisfy certain financial responsibility requirements from which such physician assistants are exempt under current law.

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

2           **SECTION 1.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-240-107, **amend**  
3 (6) as follows:

4           **12-240-107. Practice of medicine defined - exemptions from**  
5 **licensing requirements - unauthorized practice by physician**  
6 **assistants and anesthesiologist assistants - penalties - definitions -**

1 **rules - repeal.** (6) (a) ~~A person licensed under the laws of this state to~~  
2 ~~practice medicine may delegate to a physician assistant licensed by the~~  
3 ~~board pursuant to section 12-240-113 the authority to perform acts that~~  
4 ~~constitute the practice of medicine and acts that physicians are authorized~~  
5 ~~by law to perform to the extent and in the manner authorized by rules~~  
6 ~~promulgated by the board, including the authority to prescribe~~  
7 ~~medication, including controlled substances, and dispense only the drugs~~  
8 ~~designated by the board. The acts must be consistent with sound medical~~  
9 ~~practice. Each prescription for a controlled substance, as defined in~~  
10 ~~section 18-18-102 (5), issued by a physician assistant licensed by the~~  
11 ~~board shall be imprinted with the name of the physician assistant's~~  
12 ~~supervising physician. For all other prescriptions issued by a physician~~  
13 ~~assistant, the name and address of the health facility and, if the health~~  
14 ~~facility is a multi-speciality organization, the name and address of the~~  
15 ~~speciality clinic within the health facility where the physician assistant is~~  
16 ~~practicing must be imprinted on the prescription. Nothing in this~~  
17 ~~subsection (6) limits the ability of otherwise licensed health personnel to~~  
18 ~~perform delegated acts. The dispensing of prescription medication by a~~  
19 ~~physician assistant is subject to section 12-280-120 (6) A PHYSICIAN~~  
20 ~~ASSISTANT MAY NOT PROVIDE CARE UNLESS THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT~~  
21 ~~HAS ENTERED INTO A COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT WITH AN EMPLOYER OR~~  
22 ~~A PHYSICIAN.~~

23 (b) ~~(f) If the authority to perform an act is delegated pursuant to~~  
24 ~~subsection (6)(a) of this section, the physician assistant to whom the act~~  
25 ~~is delegated shall not perform the act except under the personal and~~  
26 ~~responsible direction and supervision of a person licensed under the laws~~  
27 ~~of this state to practice medicine. A licensed physician may be responsible~~

1 for the direction and supervision of up to eight physician assistants at any  
2 one time. A licensed physician shall not be made responsible for the  
3 direction and supervision of more than four physician assistants unless the  
4 licensed physician agrees to assume the responsibility. A licensed  
5 physician has sole discretion to assume or refuse such responsibility, and  
6 an employer shall not require a licensed physician to assume such  
7 responsibility as a condition of employment. The board, by rule, may  
8 define what constitutes appropriate direction and supervision of a  
9 physician assistant; except that the board shall not promulgate a rule that  
10 is inconsistent with section 12-240-114.5 WITH A COLLABORATIVE  
11 AGREEMENT IN PLACE, A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT LICENSED BY THE BOARD  
12 PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-240-113 MAY PERFORM ACTS THAT CONSTITUTE  
13 THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE AND ACTS THAT PHYSICIANS ARE AUTHORIZED  
14 BY LAW TO PERFORM TO THE EXTENT AND IN THE MANNER AUTHORIZED BY  
15 RULES PROMULGATED BY THE BOARD, INCLUDING PRESCRIBING AND  
16 DISPENSING MEDICATION, INCLUDING CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES.

17 (H) ~~For purposes of this subsection (6), "personal and responsible~~  
18 ~~direction and supervision" means that the direction and supervision of a~~  
19 ~~physician assistant is personally rendered by a licensed physician~~  
20 ~~practicing in the state of Colorado and is not rendered through~~  
21 ~~intermediaries. The extent of direction and supervision shall be~~  
22 ~~determined by rules promulgated by the board and as otherwise provided~~  
23 ~~in this subsection (6)(b); except that, when a physician assistant is~~  
24 ~~performing a delegated medical function in an acute care hospital, the~~  
25 ~~board shall allow supervision and direction to be performed without the~~  
26 ~~physical presence of the physician during the time the delegated medical~~  
27 ~~functions are being implemented if:~~

1           ~~(A) The medical functions are performed where the supervising~~  
2 ~~physician regularly practices or in a designated health manpower shortage~~  
3 ~~area;~~

4           ~~(B) The licensed supervising physician reviews the quality of~~  
5 ~~medical services rendered by the physician assistant by reviewing the~~  
6 ~~medical records to assure compliance with the physicians' directions; and~~

7           ~~(C) The performance of the delegated medical function otherwise~~  
8 ~~complies with the board's rules and any restrictions and protocols of the~~  
9 ~~licensed supervising physician and hospital.~~

10           ~~(c) Pursuant to section 12-240-135 (7), the board may apply for~~  
11 ~~an injunction to enjoin any person from performing delegated medical~~  
12 ~~acts that are in violation of this section or of any rules promulgated by the~~  
13 ~~board~~ THE COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT MUST BE KEPT ON FILE AT THE  
14 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S PRIMARY LOCATION OF PRACTICE AND BE MADE  
15 AVAILABLE TO THE BOARD UPON REQUEST.

16           ~~(d) This subsection (6) shall not apply to any person who performs~~  
17 ~~delegated medical tasks within the scope of the exemption contained in~~  
18 ~~subsection (3)(1) of this section~~ AN ACT BY A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT THAT  
19 CONSTITUTES THE PRACTICE OF MEDICINE MUST BE CONSISTENT WITH  
20 SOUND MEDICAL PRACTICE. A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SHALL COLLABORATE  
21 WITH THE APPROPRIATE HEALTH-CARE PROVIDER AS INDICATED BY THE  
22 CONDITION OF THE PATIENT, THE STANDARD OF CARE, AND THE PHYSICIAN  
23 ASSISTANT'S EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, AND COMPETENCE.

24           (e) AN EMPLOYER SHALL NOT REQUIRE A LICENSED PHYSICIAN TO  
25 ENTER INTO A COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT AS A CONDITION OF THE  
26 PHYSICIAN'S EMPLOYMENT.

27           (f) ALL PRESCRIPTIONS ISSUED BY A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT MUST

1 INCLUDE THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S NAME, THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF  
2 THE HEALTH FACILITY, AND, IF THE HEALTH FACILITY IS A MULTISPECIALTY  
3 ORGANIZATION, THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE SPECIALITY CLINIC  
4 WITHIN THE HEALTH FACILITY WHERE THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT IS  
5 PRACTICING. THE DISPENSING OF PRESCRIPTION MEDICATION BY A  
6 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT IS SUBJECT TO SECTION 12-280-120 (6)(a).

7 (g) WHILE PERFORMING ACTS INCLUDED IN THE PRACTICE OF  
8 MEDICINE, AS DEFINED IN SUBSECTION (1) OF THIS SECTION, A PHYSICIAN  
9 ASSISTANT SHALL CLEARLY IDENTIFY ONESELF, BOTH VISUALLY AND  
10 VERBALLY, AS A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT.

11 (h) PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-240-135 (7), THE BOARD MAY APPLY  
12 FOR AN INJUNCTION TO ENJOIN ANY PERSON FROM PERFORMING MEDICAL  
13 ACTS THAT ARE IN VIOLATION OF THIS SECTION OR OF ANY RULES  
14 PROMULGATED BY THE BOARD.

15 (i) THIS SUBSECTION (6) DOES NOT APPLY TO ANY PERSON WHO  
16 PERFORMS MEDICAL TASKS WITHIN THE SCOPE OF THE EXEMPTION  
17 SPECIFIED IN SUBSECTION (3)(1) OF THIS SECTION.

18 (j) A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE CARE  
19 PROVIDED BY THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT.

20 (k) A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT SHALL COMPLY WITH THE FINANCIAL  
21 RESPONSIBILITY REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIED IN SECTION 13-64-301 (1) AND  
22 RULES ADOPTED BY THE BOARD PURSUANT TO THAT SECTION.

23 (l) PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-240-138 (1)(d)(I), A PHYSICIAN  
24 ASSISTANT IS NOT AUTHORIZED TO OWN A MAJORITY OF A MEDICAL  
25 PRACTICE.

26 **SECTION 2.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 12-240-114.5  
27 as follows:

1           **12-240-114.5.    Physician assistants - collaboration**  
2           **requirements - proof of practice hours from another jurisdiction -**  
3           **liability - definitions.** (1) As used in this section, unless the context  
4 otherwise requires:

5           (a) "COLLABORATION" MEANS, AS INDICATED BY THE PATIENT'S  
6 CONDITION, COMMUNITY STANDARDS OF CARE, AND A PHYSICIAN  
7 ASSISTANT'S EDUCATION, TRAINING, AND EXPERIENCE:

8           (I) CONSULTATION BETWEEN THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT AND AN  
9 EMPLOYER OR A PHYSICIAN; OR

10          (II) REFERRAL BY THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT TO A PHYSICIAN, OR,  
11 IF THE REFERRAL IS TO A PHYSICIAN PRACTICING IN A DIFFERENT PRACTICE  
12 AREA THAN THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT, A PHYSICIAN'S PRACTICE GROUP.

13          (b) "COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT" MEANS A WRITTEN  
14 AGREEMENT THAT DESCRIBES THE MANNER IN WHICH A PHYSICIAN  
15 ASSISTANT COLLABORATES WITH AN EMPLOYER OR A PHYSICIAN.

16          ~~(a)~~ (c) "Performance evaluation" means a document that includes  
17 domains of competency relevant to the practice of a physician assistant,  
18 uses more than one modality of assessment to evaluate the domains, and  
19 includes consideration of the physician assistant's education, training,  
20 experience, competency, and knowledge of the ~~specialty~~ PRACTICE AREA  
21 in which the physician assistant is engaged.

22          ~~(b) "Practice agreement" means a written agreement between a~~  
23 ~~physician assistant and a supervising physician that defines the~~  
24 ~~communication and decision-making process by which the physician~~  
25 ~~assistant and the supervising physician provide care to patients.~~

26          ~~(c) "Supervisory plan" means a document that allows a~~  
27 ~~supervising physician to follow the ongoing professional development of~~

1 a physician assistant's clinical practice, promotes a collaborative  
2 relationship between a physician assistant and his or her supervising  
3 physicians, and allows a supervising physician to address any deficiencies  
4 that have been identified in the physician assistant's clinical competencies  
5 during the initial performance period.

6 (2) (a) A physician assistant licensed pursuant to this article 240  
7 who has practiced for less than three years is subject to the following  
8 supervisory requirements SHALL ENTER INTO A COLLABORATIVE  
9 AGREEMENT WITH AN EMPLOYER OR A PHYSICIAN. THE COLLABORATIVE  
10 AGREEMENT MUST INCLUDE:

11 (a) (I) The physician assistant's first one hundred sixty working  
12 hours shall be supervised by a supervising physician who works at the  
13 same location as the physician assistant. The physician assistant's primary  
14 supervising physician shall provide at least forty hours of supervision, and  
15 the remaining hours may be provided by a secondary supervising  
16 physician who is designated by the primary supervising physician. THE  
17 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S NAME, LICENSE NUMBER, AND PRIMARY LOCATION  
18 OF PRACTICE;

19 (b) (II) After the physician assistant completes one hundred sixty  
20 working hours, a supervising physician must remain available to the  
21 physician assistant via a telecommunication device at all times when the  
22 physician assistant is working. THE SIGNATURE OF THE PHYSICIAN  
23 ASSISTANT AND THE PHYSICIAN, OR A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE EMPLOYER  
24 WITH WHOM THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HAS ENTERED INTO THE  
25 COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT;

26 (c) (III) Not more than thirty days after the physician assistant  
27 completes one hundred sixty working hours, the primary supervising



1 ~~physician shall complete an initial performance assessment and a~~  
2 ~~supervisory plan for the physician assistant.~~ A GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF  
3 THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S PROCESS FOR COLLABORATION, THE DEGREE  
4 OF WHICH MUST BE DETERMINED AT THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S PRIMARY  
5 LOCATION OF PRACTICE AND MAY INCLUDE:

6 (A) DECISIONS MADE BY THE EMPLOYER OR PHYSICIAN WITH  
7 WHOM THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HAS ENTERED INTO A COLLABORATIVE  
8 AGREEMENT; AND

9 (B) THE CREDENTIALING OR PRIVILEGING REQUIREMENTS OF THE  
10 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S PRIMARY LOCATION OF PRACTICE;

11 (IV) A DESCRIPTION OF THE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION PROCESS,  
12 WHICH MAY BE COMPLETED BY THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S EMPLOYER IN  
13 ACCORDANCE WITH A PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND REVIEW PROCESS  
14 ESTABLISHED BY THE EMPLOYER; AND

15 (V) ANY ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS SPECIFIC TO THE PHYSICIAN  
16 ASSISTANT'S PRACTICE REQUIRED BY THE EMPLOYER OR PHYSICIAN  
17 ENTERING INTO THE COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT, INCLUDING  
18 ADDITIONAL LEVELS OF OVERSIGHT, LIMITATIONS ON AUTONOMOUS  
19 JUDGMENT, AND THE DESIGNATION OF A PRIMARY CONTACT FOR  
20 COLLABORATION.

21 (b) (I) FOR A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT WITH FEWER THAN THREE  
22 THOUSAND PRACTICE HOURS, THE COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT MUST  
23 ALSO:

24 (A) REQUIRE THAT COLLABORATION DURING THE FIRST ONE  
25 HUNDRED SIXTY PRACTICE HOURS BE COMPLETED IN PERSON OR THROUGH  
26 TECHNOLOGY, AS PERMITTED BY THE PHYSICIAN OR EMPLOYER WITH  
27 WHOM THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HAS ENTERED INTO THE COLLABORATIVE

1 AGREEMENT;

2 (B) INCORPORATE ELEMENTS DEFINING THE EXPECTED NATURE OF  
3 COLLABORATION, INCLUDING: THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S EXPECTED  
4 AREA OF PRACTICE; EXPECTATIONS REGARDING SUPPORT AND  
5 CONSULTATION FROM THE PHYSICIAN OR EMPLOYER WITH WHOM THE  
6 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HAS ENTERED INTO A COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT;  
7 METHODS AND MODES OF COMMUNICATION AND COLLABORATION; AND  
8 ANY OTHER PERTINENT ELEMENTS OF COLLABORATIVE, TEAM-BASED  
9 PRACTICE APPLICABLE TO THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S PRACTICE OR  
10 ESTABLISHED BY THE EMPLOYER; AND

11 (C) REQUIRE A PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND DISCUSSION OF  
12 THE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION WITH THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT AFTER  
13 THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HAS WORKED WITH THE EMPLOYER FOR SIX  
14 MONTHS, AGAIN AFTER THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HAS WORKED WITH THE  
15 EMPLOYER FOR TWELVE MONTHS, AND ADDITIONAL EVALUATION  
16 THEREAFTER AS DETERMINED BY THE PHYSICIAN OR EMPLOYER WITH  
17 WHOM THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HAS ENTERED INTO THE COLLABORATIVE  
18 AGREEMENT.

19 (II) THE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION MAY BE COMPLETED BY THE  
20 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S EMPLOYER IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE  
21 PERFORMANCE EVALUATION AND REVIEW PROCESS ESTABLISHED BY THE  
22 EMPLOYER; EXCEPT THAT THE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION MUST BE  
23 COMPLETED WITH AT LEAST THE MINIMUM FREQUENCY REQUIRED IN  
24 SECTION (2)(b)(I)(C) OF THIS SECTION.

25 (III) AFTER A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT HAS COMPLETED THREE  
26 THOUSAND PRACTICE HOURS, THE ADDITIONAL COLLABORATIVE  
27 AGREEMENT REQUIREMENTS DESCRIBED IN THIS SUBSECTION (2)(b) NO

1 LONGER APPLY.

2 (3) (a) ~~The supervision of a physician assistant licensed pursuant~~  
3 ~~to this article 240 who has practiced in this state for three years or more~~  
4 ~~is determined by a practice agreement that shall be created by the~~  
5 ~~physician assistant and his or her primary supervising physician not later~~  
6 ~~than thirty days after the physician assistant begins practicing under the~~  
7 ~~supervision of the primary supervising physician. A practice agreement~~  
8 ~~must include~~ A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT MAY PROVIDE THE BOARD WITH A  
9 SIGNED AFFIDAVIT OUTLINING PRACTICE EXPERIENCE FOR THE PURPOSES  
10 OF MEETING THE REQUIREMENTS DESCRIBED IN SUBSECTION (2)(b) OF THIS  
11 SECTION, AS APPLICABLE, IF THE PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT:

12 (a) HELD AN UNENCUMBERED LICENSE IN ANOTHER STATE OR  
13 TERRITORY OF THE UNITED STATES BEFORE BECOMING LICENSED IN THIS  
14 STATE PURSUANT TO SECTION 12-240-113; OR

15 (b) WAS INITIALLY LICENSED IN THIS STATE PRIOR TO THE  
16 EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS SUBSECTION (3), AS AMENDED.

17 ~~(I) A process by which a physician assistant and a supervising~~  
18 ~~physician communicate and make decisions concerning patients' medical~~  
19 ~~treatment, which process utilizes the knowledge and skills of the~~  
20 ~~physician assistant and the supervising physician based on their respective~~  
21 ~~education, training, and experience;~~

22 ~~(II) A protocol for designating an alternative physician for~~  
23 ~~consultation when the supervising physician is unavailable for~~  
24 ~~consultation;~~

25 ~~(III) The signatures of the physician assistant and supervising~~  
26 ~~physician; and~~

27 ~~(IV) A termination provision that allows the physician assistant~~

1 or the supervising physician to terminate the practice agreement after  
2 providing written notice of his or her intent to do so at least thirty days  
3 before the date of termination. If a practice agreement is terminated, the  
4 physician assistant and the physician assistant's primary supervising  
5 physician shall create a new practice agreement within forty-five days  
6 after the date the previous practice agreement was terminated.

7 (b) In addition to the components described in subsection (3)(a)  
8 of this section, a practice agreement may impose conditions concerning  
9 specific duties, procedures, or drugs.

10 (c) If the terms or conditions of a practice agreement change, both  
11 the physician assistant and the supervising physician shall sign and date  
12 the updated practice agreement.

13 (4) A physician assistant licensed pursuant to this article 240 who  
14 has practiced for at least twelve months and who is making a substantive  
15 change in his or her scope of practice or practice area is subject to the  
16 following supervisory requirements:

17 (a) The physician assistant's first eighty working hours shall be  
18 supervised by a supervising physician who works at the same location as  
19 the physician assistant. The physician assistant's primary supervising  
20 physician shall provide at least twenty hours of supervision, and the  
21 remaining hours may be provided by a secondary supervising physician  
22 who is designated by the primary supervising physician.

23 (b) After the physician assistant completes eighty working hours,  
24 a supervising physician shall remain available to the physician assistant  
25 via a telecommunication device at all times when the physician assistant  
26 is working.

27 (c) After the physician assistant has worked for six months, and

1 again after the physician assistant has worked for twelve months, the  
2 primary supervising physician shall complete a performance assessment  
3 and discuss the performance assessment with the physician assistant.

4 (5) (a) A physician assistant licensed pursuant to this article 240  
5 who has practiced for at least three years may be liable for damages  
6 resulting from negligence in providing care to a patient; except that a  
7 physician assistant is not liable for any damages that occur as a result of  
8 the physician assistant following a direct order from a supervising  
9 physician.

10 (b) A physician assistant who has been practicing for at least three  
11 years shall comply with the financial responsibility requirements specified  
12 in section 13-64-301 (1) and rules adopted by the board pursuant to that  
13 section.

14 (c) A physician assistant's supervising physician may be liable for  
15 damages resulting from the physician assistant's negligence in providing  
16 care to a patient if the physician assistant has not practiced for at least  
17 three years as described in subsection (5)(a) of this section.

18 **SECTION 3.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-240-119, **amend**  
19 (2)(c) as follows:

20 **12-240-119. Reentry license - period of inactivity -**  
21 **international medical graduate - competency assessment - board**  
22 **rules - conversion to full license. (2) (c) If, based on the assessment**  
23 **and, IF PRESCRIBED, after completion of an educational program, if**  
24 **prescribed, the board determines that the applicant is competent and**  
25 **qualified to practice medicine without supervision, or practice as a**  
26 **physician assistant, or PRACTICE as an anesthesiologist assistant with**  
27 **supervision, as specified in this article 240, the board may convert the**

1 reentry license to a full license to practice medicine, practice as a  
2 physician assistant, or practice as an anesthesiologist assistant, as  
3 applicable, under this article 240.

4 **SECTION 4.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-240-122, **amend**  
5 (1) as follows:

6 **12-240-122. Prescriptions - requirement to advise patients.**

7 (1) A physician OR PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT licensed under this article 240  
8 ~~or a physician assistant licensed by the board who has been delegated the~~  
9 ~~authority to prescribe medication,~~ may advise the physician's or the  
10 physician assistant's patients of their option to have the symptom or  
11 purpose for which a prescription is being issued included on the  
12 prescription order.

13 **SECTION 5.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-240-128, **amend**  
14 (7)(c) as follows:

15 **12-240-128. Physician training licenses.** (7) A physician  
16 training licensee may practice medicine as defined by this article 240 with  
17 the following restrictions:

18 (c) A physician training licensee shall not: ~~have the authority to~~

19 (I) Delegate the rendering of medical services to a person who is  
20 not licensed to practice medicine pursuant to section 12-240-107 (3)(l);  
21 OR

22 (II) ~~and shall not have the authority to supervise~~ ENTER INTO A  
23 COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT WITH physician assistants as ~~provided by~~  
24 ~~section 12-240-107 (6)~~ DESCRIBED IN SECTIONS 12-240-107 (6) AND  
25 12-240-114.5.

26 **SECTION 6.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-280-103, **amend**  
27 (39)(c)(II)(B) as follows:

1           **12-280-103. Definitions - rules.** As used in this article 280, unless  
2 the context otherwise requires or the term is otherwise defined in another  
3 part of this article 280:

4           (39) "Practice of pharmacy" means:

5           (c) The provision of a therapeutic interchange selection or a  
6 therapeutically equivalent selection to a patient if, during the patient's stay  
7 at a nursing care facility or a long-term acute care hospital licensed under  
8 part 1 of article 3 of title 25, the selection has been approved for the  
9 patient:

10           (II) By one of the following health-care providers:

11           (B) A physician assistant licensed under section 12-240-113; ~~if the~~  
12 ~~physician assistant is under the supervision of a licensed physician; or~~

13           **SECTION 7.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-280-502, **amend**  
14 (1)(b)(II) as follows:

15           **12-280-502. Therapeutic interchange and therapeutically**  
16 **equivalent selections for nursing care facility or long-term acute care**  
17 **hospital patients - rules.** (1) A pharmacy used by a nursing care facility  
18 or a long-term acute care hospital licensed under part 1 of article 3 of title  
19 25 may make a therapeutic interchange or a therapeutically equivalent  
20 selection for a patient if, during the patient's stay at the facility, the  
21 selection has been approved for the patient:

22           (b) By one of the following health-care providers:

23           (II) A physician assistant licensed under section 12-240-113; ~~if the~~  
24 ~~physician assistant is under the supervision of a licensed physician; or~~

25           **SECTION 8.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 12-290-110, **amend**  
26 (5) as follows:

27           **12-290-110. Podiatry training license.** (5) A person with a

1     podiatric training license shall ~~only~~ practice podiatry ONLY under the  
2     supervision of a licensed podiatrist or a physician licensed to practice  
3     medicine within the residency program. A person with a podiatry training  
4     license shall not delegate podiatric or medical services to a person who  
5     is not licensed to practice podiatry or medicine and shall not have the  
6     authority to ~~supervise~~ COLLABORATE WITH physician assistants.

7             **SECTION 9.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, **amend** 12-290-117  
8     as follows:

9             **12-290-117. Use of physician assistants - collaboration**  
10     **requirements - affidavits of practice experience - rules - definitions.**

11     (1) ~~A person licensed under the laws of this state to practice podiatry may~~  
12     ~~delegate to a physician assistant licensed by the Colorado medical board~~  
13     ~~pursuant to section 12-240-113 the authority to~~ A PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT  
14     LICENSED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 240 OF THIS TITLE 12 MAY perform acts  
15     that constitute the practice of podiatry to the extent and in the manner  
16     authorized by rules promulgated by the ~~Colorado podiatry~~ board. The acts  
17     shall be consistent with sound practices of podiatry. ~~Each prescription for~~  
18     ~~a controlled substance, as defined in section 18-18-102 (5), issued by a~~  
19     ~~physician assistant must have the name of the physician assistant's~~  
20     ~~supervising podiatrist printed on the prescription. For all other~~ ALL  
21     prescriptions issued by a physician assistant MUST INCLUDE THE  
22     PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT'S NAME, the name and address of the health facility,  
23     and, if the health facility is a ~~multi-speciality~~ MULTISPECIALTY  
24     organization, the name and address of the ~~speciality~~ SPECIALTY clinic  
25     within the health facility where the physician assistant is practicing. ~~must~~  
26     ~~be imprinted on the prescription. Nothing in this section limits the ability~~  
27     ~~of otherwise licensed health personnel to perform delegated acts. The~~



1 dispensing of prescription medication by a physician assistant is subject  
2 to section 12-280-120 (6).

3 (2) ~~If the authority to perform an act is delegated pursuant to~~  
4 ~~subsection (1) of this section, the act shall not be performed except under~~  
5 ~~the personal and responsible direction and supervision of a person~~  
6 ~~licensed under the laws of this state to practice podiatry, and the person~~  
7 ~~shall not be responsible for the direction and supervision of more than~~  
8 ~~four physician assistants at any one time without specific approval of the~~  
9 ~~Colorado podiatry board. The board may define appropriate direction and~~  
10 ~~supervision pursuant to rules~~ PRIOR TO PRACTICING PODIATRY, A  
11 PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT MUST ENTER INTO A COLLABORATIVE AGREEMENT  
12 WITH A LICENSED PODIATRIST.

13 (3) The provisions of sections 12-240-107 (6), ~~and~~ 12-240-113,  
14 AND 12-240-114.5 governing physician assistants under the "Colorado  
15 Medical Practice Act" ~~shall~~ apply to physician assistants under this  
16 section.

17 **SECTION 10.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 13-64-301, **amend**  
18 (1) introductory portion as follows:

19 **13-64-301. Financial responsibility.** (1) As a condition of active  
20 licensure or authority to practice in this state, every physician, dentist,  
21 dental therapist, or dental hygienist; every physician assistant; ~~who has~~  
22 ~~been practicing for at least three years;~~ and every health-care institution  
23 as defined in section 13-64-202, except as provided in section  
24 13-64-303.5, that provides health-care services shall establish financial  
25 responsibility, as follows:

26 **SECTION 11.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 15-18.7-103,  
27 **amend** (1) introductory portion and (1)(i) as follows:

1           **15-18.7-103. Medical orders for scope of treatment forms -**  
2 **form contents.** (1) A medical orders for scope of treatment form ~~shall~~  
3 MUST include the following information concerning the adult whose  
4 medical treatment is the subject of the medical orders for scope of  
5 treatment form:

6           (i) The signature of the adult's physician, advanced practice  
7 registered nurse, or ~~if under the supervision or authority of the physician,~~  
8 physician assistant.

9           **SECTION 12.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 15-18.7-104,  
10 **amend** (5) as follows:

11           **15-18.7-104. Duty to comply with medical orders for scope of**  
12 **treatment form - immunity - effect on criminal charges against**  
13 **another person - transferability.** (5) An adult's physician, advanced  
14 practice registered nurse, or ~~if under the supervision of the physician,~~  
15 physician assistant may provide an oral confirmation to a health-care  
16 provider who shall annotate on the medical orders for scope of treatment  
17 form the time and date of the oral confirmation and the name and license  
18 number of the physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician  
19 assistant. The physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician  
20 assistant shall countersign the annotation of the oral confirmation on the  
21 medical orders for scope of treatment form within a time period that  
22 satisfies any applicable state law or within thirty days, whichever period  
23 is less, after providing the oral confirmation. The signature of the  
24 physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant may  
25 be provided by photocopy, fax, or electronic means. A medical orders for  
26 scope of treatment form with annotated oral confirmation, and a  
27 photocopy, fax, or other electronic reproduction ~~thereof~~ OF THE FORM,

1 shall be given the same force and effect as the original form signed by the  
2 physician, advanced practice registered nurse, or physician assistant.

3 **SECTION 13.** In Colorado Revised Statutes, 23-21-803, **amend**  
4 (6) as follows:

5 **23-21-803. Definitions.** As used in this part 8, unless the context  
6 otherwise requires:

7 (6) "Physician assistant" means a person licensed as a physician  
8 assistant by the Colorado medical board in accordance with section  
9 12-240-113 who is authorized, in accordance with section 12-240-107  
10 (6), to perform acts constituting the practice of medicine, including  
11 prescribing controlled substances. ~~and who is under the supervision of a~~  
12 ~~physician trained in MAT.~~

13 **SECTION 14. Act subject to petition - effective date.** This act  
14 takes effect at 12:01 a.m. on the day following the expiration of the  
15 ninety-day period after final adjournment of the general assembly; except  
16 that, if a referendum petition is filed pursuant to section 1 (3) of article V  
17 of the state constitution against this act or an item, section, or part of this  
18 act within such period, then the act, item, section, or part will not take  
19 effect unless approved by the people at the general election to be held in  
20 November 2024 and, in such case, will take effect on the date of the  
21 official declaration of the vote thereon by the governor.