

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1889**

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PRESENTED BY:

*Jennifer E. Benson*

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in General Court assembled:*

The undersigned legislators and/or citizens respectfully petition for the adoption of the accompanying bill:

An Act relative to advanced practice nursing.

PETITION OF:

NAME:	DISTRICT/ADDRESS:
<i>Jennifer E. Benson</i>	<i>37th Middlesex</i>
<i>James J. Dwyer</i>	<i>30th Middlesex</i>
<i>James R. Miceli</i>	<i>19th Middlesex</i>
<i>James B. Eldridge</i>	<i>Middlesex and Worcester</i>
<i>Marjorie C. Decker</i>	<i>25th Middlesex</i>
<i>Barbara L'Italien</i>	<i>Second Essex and Middlesex</i>
<i>Leah Cole</i>	<i>12th Essex</i>
<i>Denise C. Garlick</i>	<i>13th Norfolk</i>
<i>Denise Provost</i>	<i>27th Middlesex</i>

**HOUSE . . . . . No. 1889**

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By Ms. Benson of Lunenburg, a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 1889) of Jennifer E. Benson and others relative to the independent practice of advanced practice registered nursing by nurse practitioners . Public Health.

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The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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**In the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth General Court  
(2015-2016)**  
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An Act relative to advanced practice nursing.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 80B of the General Laws, as appearing in the 2012 Official Edition,  
2 is hereby amended by striking out the seventh paragraph and inserting in place thereof the  
3 following:—

4 The independent practice of advanced practice registered nursing by a nurse practitioner  
5 shall consist of:

6 (a) Performance of advanced assessment and diagnoses, issuance of written prescriptions,  
7 the selection, ordering and administration of tests and therapeutics;

8 (b) Providing for consultation, planning and coordination of care and referrals and  
9 transfers of patients to other providers as appropriate; and

10 (c) Performing such other functions generally performed by nurse practitioners for which  
11 the nurse practitioner is qualified by education and experience.

12 Nurse practitioners shall comply with all applicable requirements in law and regulation  
13 relative to the quality of advanced practice nursing care provided. Nurse practitioners are  
14 responsible for recognizing the limits of their knowledge and experience and planning for the  
15 provision of care that is beyond the nurse practitioner’s expertise and shall consult with and refer  
16 patients to other health care providers as appropriate.

17 The board shall develop and promulgate regulations relative to the independent practice  
18 of advanced practice registered nursing including the ordering of tests, therapeutics and  
19 prescribing of medications.

20 SECTION 2. Section 80E of chapter 112 of the General Laws, as so appearing,  
21 is hereby amended by striking out, in lines 1 and 7, the words “nurse practitioner or”

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23 SECTION 3. Said section 80E is hereby further amended by adding the following:—

24 A nurse practitioner shall have full authority to issue prescriptions and order tests and  
25 therapeutics independently in accordance with the provisions of section 80B.

26 SECTION 4. Section 80I of chapter 112, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking  
27 out the last sentence.

28 SECTION 5. Section 3 of chapter 176R, as so appearing, is hereby amended by striking  
29 out said section in its entirety and inserting in place thereof the following:—

30 Section 3. A participating provider nurse practitioner practicing within the scope of his  
31 license shall be considered qualified within the carrier’s definition of primary care provider to an  
32 insured.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect on January 1, 2016.