

AN ACT

To amend sections 3905.471, 4723.021, 4723.06, 4723.28, and 4723.431; to enact new section 4723.35 and sections 4723.351, 4723.436, and 4730.204; and to repeal section 4723.35 of the Revised Code to authorize certain advanced practice registered nurses and physician assistants to sign documents related to psychiatric inpatients; to revise the law governing the Board of Nursing's monitoring of impaired practitioners; and to modify the law governing insurance navigators and to amend the version of section 4723.431 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect on September 30, 2024, to continue the changes to that section on and after that date.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio:

SECTION 1. That sections 3905.471, 4723.021, 4723.06, 4723.28, and 4723.431 be amended and new section 4723.35 and sections 4723.351, 4723.436, and 4730.204 of the Revised Code be enacted to read as follows:

Sec. 3905.471. (A) No individual or entity shall act as or hold itself out to be an insurance navigator unless that individual or entity is certified as an insurance navigator under this section and is receiving funding under division (i) of section 1311 of the Affordable Care Act.

(B) An insurance navigator who complies with the requirements of this section may do any of the following:

(1) Conduct public education activities to raise awareness of the availability of qualified health plans;

(2) Distribute fair and impartial general information concerning enrollment in all qualified health plans offered within the exchange and the availability of the premium tax credits under section 36B of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, 26 U.S.C. 36B, and cost-sharing reductions under section 1402 of the Affordable Care Act;

(3) Facilitate enrollment in qualified health plans, without suggesting that an individual select a particular plan;

(4) Provide referrals to appropriate state agencies for any enrollee with a grievance, complaint, or question regarding their health plan, coverage, or a determination under such plan coverage;

(5) Provide information in a manner that is culturally and linguistically appropriate to the needs of the population being served by the exchange.

(C) An insurance navigator shall not do any of the following:

- (1) Sell, solicit, or negotiate health insurance;
- (2) Provide advice concerning the substantive benefits, terms, and conditions of a particular health benefit plan or offer advice about which health benefit plan is better or worse or suitable for a particular individual or entity;
- (3) Recommend a particular health plan or advise consumers about which health benefit plan to choose;
- (4) Provide any information or services related to health benefit plans or other products not offered in the exchange. Division (C)(4) of this section shall not be interpreted as prohibiting an insurance navigator from providing information on eligibility for medicaid;
- (5) Engage in any unfair method of competition or any fraudulent, deceptive, or dishonest act or practice.

(D) An individual shall not act in the capacity of an insurance navigator, or perform insurance navigator duties on behalf of an organization serving as an insurance navigator, unless the individual has applied for certification and the superintendent finds that the applicant meets all of the following requirements:

- (1) Is at least eighteen years of age;
- (2) Has completed and submitted the application and disclosure form required under division (F)(2) of this section and has declared, under penalty of refusal, suspension, or revocation of the insurance navigator's certification, that the statements made in the form are true, correct, and complete to the best of the applicant's knowledge and belief;
- (3) Has successfully completed a criminal records check under section 3905.051 of the Revised Code, as required by the superintendent;
- (4) Has successfully completed the certification and training requirements adopted by the superintendent in accordance with division (F) of this section;
- (5) Has paid all fees required by the superintendent.

(E)(1) A business entity that acts as an insurance navigator, supervises the activities of individual insurance navigators, or receives funding to provide insurance navigator services shall obtain an insurance navigator business entity certification.

- (2) Any entity applying for a business entity certification shall:
 - (a) Apply in a form specified, and provide any information required by, the superintendent;and

- (b) Pay an initial licensure fee of two hundred dollars or renewal fee of one hundred dollars.

(3) A business entity certified as an insurance navigator shall, in a manner prescribed by the superintendent, make available a list of all individual insurance navigators that the business entity employs, supervises, or with which the business entity is affiliated.

(F) The superintendent of insurance shall, prior to any exchange becoming operational in this state, do all of the following:

- (1)(a) Adopt rules to establish a certification and training program for a prospective

insurance navigator and the insurance navigator's employees that includes screening via a criminal records check performed in accordance with section 3905.051 of the Revised Code, initial and continuing education requirements, and an examination;

(b) The certification and training program shall include training on compliance with the "Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996," 110 Stat. 1955, 42 U.S.C. 1320d, et seq., as amended, training on ethics, and training on provisions of the Affordable Care Act relating to insurance navigators and exchanges.

(2) Develop an application and disclosure form by which an insurance navigator may disclose any potential conflicts of interest, as well as any other information the superintendent considers pertinent.

(G)(1) The superintendent may suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue or renew the insurance navigator certification of any person, or levy a civil penalty against any person, that violates the requirements of this section or commits any act that would be a ground for denial, suspension, or revocation of an insurance agent license, as prescribed in section 3905.14 of the Revised Code.

(2) The superintendent shall have the power to examine and investigate the business affairs and records of any insurance navigator.

(3)(a) The superintendent shall not certify as an insurance navigator, and shall revoke any existing insurance navigator certification of, any individual, organization, or business entity that is receiving financial compensation, including monetary and in-kind compensation, gifts, or grants, on or after October 1, 2013, in connection with the enrollment of any employees or other individuals in a qualified health benefit plan, from an insurer offering a qualified health benefit plan through an exchange operating in this state.

(b) Notwithstanding division (G)(3)(a) of this section, the superintendent may certify as a navigator a qualified health center and a federally qualified health center look-alike, as defined in section 3701.047 of the Revised Code.

(4)(a) If the superintendent finds that a violation of this section made by an individual insurance navigator was made with the knowledge of the employing or supervising entity, or that the employing or supervising entity should reasonably have been aware of the individual insurance navigator's violation, and the violation was not reported to the superintendent and no corrective action was undertaken on a timely basis, then the superintendent may suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew the insurance navigator certification of the supervising or employing entity.

(b) In addition to, or in lieu of, any disciplinary action taken under division (G)(4)(a) of this section, the superintendent may levy a civil penalty against such an entity.

(H) A business entity that terminates the employment, engagement, affiliation, or other relationship with an individual insurance navigator shall notify the superintendent within thirty days following the effective date of the termination, using a format prescribed by the superintendent, if the reason for termination is one of the reasons set forth in section 3905.14 of the Revised Code, or the entity has knowledge that the insurance navigator was found by a court or government body to

have engaged in any of the activities in section 3905.14 of the Revised Code.

(I) Insurance navigators are subject to the laws of this chapter, and any rules adopted pursuant to the chapter, in so far as such laws are applicable.

(J) The superintendent may deny, suspend, approve, renew, or revoke the certification of an insurance navigator if the superintendent determines that doing so would be in the interest of Ohio insureds or the general public. Such an action is not subject to Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

(K) The superintendent may adopt rules in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to implement sections 3905.47 to 3905.473 of the Revised Code.

(L) The superintendent may, by rule, apply the requirements of this chapter to any entity or person designated by an exchange, the state, or the federal government to assist consumers or participate in exchange activities.

(M) Any fees collected under this section shall be paid into the state treasury to the credit of the department of insurance operating fund created under section 3901.021 of the Revised Code.

Sec. 4723.021. ~~(A) In the absence of fraud or bad faith, the board of nursing, a current or former board member, an agent of the board, a representative of the board, an employee of the board, or an entity that provides services related to remediation under the board's practice intervention and improvement program~~ none of the following shall not be held liable in damages to any person as the result of any act, omission, proceeding, conduct, or decision related to official duties undertaken or performed pursuant to this chapter:

(1) The board of nursing;

(2) A current or former board member;

(3) An agent, representative, or employee of the board;

(4) An entity that provides services related to remediation under the board's practice intervention and improvement program;

(5) The monitoring organization that conducts the safe haven program as described in sections 4723.35 and 4723.351 of the Revised Code and that may provide other services as requested by the board. If

(B) If a member, agent, representative, employee, or entity or the monitoring organization asks to be defended by the state against any claim or action arising out of any act, omission, proceeding, conduct, or decision related to the requestor's official duties, and the request is made in writing at a reasonable time before trial and the requestor cooperates in good faith in the defense of the claim or action, the state shall provide and pay for the requestor's defense and shall pay any resulting judgment, compromise, or settlement. At no time shall the state pay any part of a claim or judgment that is for punitive or exemplary damages.

Sec. 4723.06. (A) The board of nursing shall:

(1) Administer and enforce the provisions of this chapter, including the taking of disciplinary action for violations of section 4723.28 of the Revised Code, any other provisions of this chapter, or rules adopted under this chapter;

(2) Develop criteria that an applicant must meet to be eligible to sit for the examination for licensure to practice as a registered nurse or as a licensed practical nurse;

(3) Issue and renew nursing licenses, dialysis technician certificates, and community health worker certificates, as provided in this chapter;

(4) Define the minimum educational standards for the schools and programs of registered nursing and practical nursing in this state;

(5) Survey, inspect, and grant full approval to prelicensure nursing education programs in this state that meet the standards established by rules adopted under section 4723.07 of the Revised Code. Prelicensure nursing education programs include, but are not limited to, diploma, associate degree, baccalaureate degree, master's degree, and doctor of nursing programs leading to initial licensure to practice nursing as a registered nurse and practical nurse programs leading to initial licensure to practice nursing as a licensed practical nurse.

(6) Grant conditional approval, by a vote of a quorum of the board, to a new prelicensure nursing education program or a program that is being reestablished after having ceased to operate, if the program meets and maintains the minimum standards of the board established by rules adopted under section 4723.07 of the Revised Code. If the board does not grant conditional approval, it shall hold an adjudication under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to consider conditional approval of the program. If the board grants conditional approval, at the first meeting following completion of the survey process required by division (A)(5) of this section, the board shall determine whether to grant full approval to the program. If the board does not grant full approval or if it appears that the program has failed to meet and maintain standards established by rules adopted under section 4723.07 of the Revised Code, the board shall hold an adjudication under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to consider the program. Based on results of the adjudication, the board may continue or withdraw conditional approval, or grant full approval.

(7) Place on provisional approval, for a period of time specified by the board, a prelicensure nursing education program that has ceased to meet and maintain the minimum standards of the board established by rules adopted under section 4723.07 of the Revised Code. Prior to or at the end of the period, the board shall reconsider whether the program meets the standards and shall grant full approval if it does. If it does not, the board may withdraw approval, pursuant to an adjudication under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

(8) Approve continuing education programs and courses under standards established in rules adopted under sections 4723.07, 4723.69, 4723.79, and 4723.88 of the Revised Code;

(9) Establish ~~a substance use disorder monitoring~~ the safe haven program in accordance with ~~section~~ sections 4723.35 and 4723.351 of the Revised Code;

(10) Establish the practice intervention and improvement program in accordance with section 4723.282 of the Revised Code;

(11) Grant approval to the course of study in advanced pharmacology and related topics described in section 4723.482 of the Revised Code;

(12) Make an annual edition of the exclusionary formulary established in rules adopted under section 4723.50 of the Revised Code available to the public by electronic means and, as soon as possible after any revision of the formulary becomes effective, make the revision available to the public by electronic means;

(13) Approve under section 4723.46 of the Revised Code national certifying organizations for examination and licensure of advanced practice registered nurses, which may include separate organizations for each nursing specialty;

(14) Provide guidance and make recommendations to the general assembly, the governor, state agencies, and the federal government with respect to the regulation of the practice of nursing and the enforcement of this chapter;

(15) Make an annual report to the governor, which shall be open for public inspection;

(16) Maintain and have open for public inspection the following records:

(a) A record of all its meetings and proceedings;

(b) A record of all applicants for, and holders of, licenses and certificates issued by the board under this chapter or in accordance with rules adopted under this chapter. The record shall be maintained in a format determined by the board.

(c) A list of education and training programs approved by the board.

(17) Deny conditional approval to a new prelicensure nursing education program or a program that is being reestablished after having ceased to operate if the program or a person acting on behalf of the program submits or causes to be submitted to the board false, misleading, or deceptive statements, information, or documentation in the process of applying for approval of the program. If the board proposes to deny approval of the program, it shall do so pursuant to an adjudication conducted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

(B) The board may fulfill the requirement of division (A)(8) of this section by authorizing persons who meet the standards established in rules adopted under section 4723.07 of the Revised Code to approve continuing education programs and courses. Persons so authorized shall approve continuing education programs and courses in accordance with standards established in rules adopted under section 4723.07 of the Revised Code.

Persons seeking authorization to approve continuing education programs and courses shall apply to the board and pay the appropriate fee established under section 4723.08 of the Revised Code. Authorizations to approve continuing education programs and courses shall expire and may be renewed according to the schedule established in rules adopted under section 4723.07 of the Revised Code.

In addition to approving continuing education programs under division (A)(8) of this section, the board may sponsor continuing education activities that are directly related to the statutes and rules the board enforces.

(C)(1) The board may deny conditional approval to a new prelicensure nursing education program or program that is being reestablished after having ceased to operate if the program is

controlled by a person who controls or has controlled a program that had its approval withdrawn, revoked, suspended, or restricted by the board or a board of another jurisdiction that is a member of the national council of state boards of nursing. If the board proposes to deny approval, it shall do so pursuant to an adjudication conducted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

(2) As used in this division, "control" means any of the following:

(a) Holding fifty per cent or more of the outstanding voting securities or membership interest of a prelicensure nursing education program;

(b) In the case of an unincorporated prelicensure nursing education program, having the right to fifty per cent or more of the program's profits or in the event of a dissolution, fifty per cent or more of the program's assets;

(c) In the case of a prelicensure nursing education program that is a for-profit or not-for-profit corporation, having the contractual authority presently to designate fifty per cent or more of its directors;

(d) In the case of a prelicensure nursing education program that is a trust, having the contractual authority presently to designate fifty per cent or more of its trustees;

(e) Having the authority to direct the management, policies, or investments of a prelicensure nursing education program.

(D)(1) When an action taken by the board under division (A)(6), (7), or (17) or (C)(1) of this section is required to be taken pursuant to an adjudication conducted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, the board may, in lieu of an adjudication hearing, enter into a consent agreement to resolve the matter. A consent agreement, when ratified by a vote of a quorum of the board, constitutes the findings and order of the board with respect to the matter addressed in the agreement. If the board refuses to ratify a consent agreement, the admissions and findings contained in the agreement are of no effect.

(2) In any instance in which the board is required under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to give notice to a person seeking approval of a prelicensure nursing education program of an opportunity for a hearing and the person does not make a timely request for a hearing in accordance with section 119.07 of the Revised Code, the board is not required to hold a hearing, but may adopt, by a vote of a quorum, a final order that contains the board's findings.

(3) When the board denies or withdraws approval of a prelicensure nursing education program, the board may specify that its action is permanent. A program subject to a permanent action taken by the board is forever ineligible for approval and the board shall not accept an application for the program's reinstatement or approval.

Sec. 4723.28. (A) The board of nursing, by a vote of a quorum, may impose one or more of the following sanctions if it finds that a person committed fraud in passing an examination required to obtain a license or dialysis technician certificate issued by the board or to have committed fraud, misrepresentation, or deception in applying for or securing any nursing license or dialysis technician certificate issued by the board: deny, revoke, suspend, or place restrictions on any nursing license or

dialysis technician certificate issued by the board; reprimand or otherwise discipline a holder of a nursing license or dialysis technician certificate; or impose a fine of not more than five hundred dollars per violation.

(B) Except as provided in section 4723.092 of the Revised Code, the board of nursing, by a vote of a quorum, may impose one or more of the following sanctions: deny, revoke, suspend, or place restrictions on any nursing license or dialysis technician certificate issued by the board; reprimand or otherwise discipline a holder of a nursing license or dialysis technician certificate; or impose a fine of not more than five hundred dollars per violation. The sanctions may be imposed for any of the following:

(1) Denial, revocation, suspension, or restriction of authority to engage in a licensed profession or practice a health care occupation, including nursing or practice as a dialysis technician, for any reason other than a failure to renew, in Ohio or another state or jurisdiction;

(2) Engaging in the practice of nursing or engaging in practice as a dialysis technician, having failed to renew a nursing license or dialysis technician certificate issued under this chapter, or while a nursing license or dialysis technician certificate is under suspension;

(3) Conviction of, a plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, a judicial finding of guilt resulting from a plea of no contest to, or a judicial finding of eligibility for a pretrial diversion or similar program or for intervention in lieu of conviction for, a misdemeanor committed in the course of practice;

(4) Conviction of, a plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, a judicial finding of guilt resulting from a plea of no contest to, or a judicial finding of eligibility for a pretrial diversion or similar program or for intervention in lieu of conviction for, any felony or of any crime involving gross immorality or moral turpitude;

(5) Selling, giving away, or administering drugs or therapeutic devices for other than legal and legitimate therapeutic purposes; or conviction of, a plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, a judicial finding of guilt resulting from a plea of no contest to, or a judicial finding of eligibility for a pretrial diversion or similar program or for intervention in lieu of conviction for, violating any municipal, state, county, or federal drug law;

(6) Conviction of, a plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, a judicial finding of guilt resulting from a plea of no contest to, or a judicial finding of eligibility for a pretrial diversion or similar program or for intervention in lieu of conviction for, an act in another jurisdiction that would constitute a felony or a crime of moral turpitude in Ohio;

(7) Conviction of, a plea of guilty to, a judicial finding of guilt of, a judicial finding of guilt resulting from a plea of no contest to, or a judicial finding of eligibility for a pretrial diversion or similar program or for intervention in lieu of conviction for, an act in the course of practice in another jurisdiction that would constitute a misdemeanor in Ohio;

(8) Self-administering or otherwise taking into the body any dangerous drug, as defined in section 4729.01 of the Revised Code, in any way that is not in accordance with a legal, valid

prescription issued for that individual, or self-administering or otherwise taking into the body any drug that is a schedule I controlled substance;

(9) Habitual or excessive use of controlled substances, other habit-forming drugs, or alcohol or other chemical substances to an extent that impairs the individual's ability to provide safe nursing care or safe dialysis care;

(10) Impairment of the ability to practice according to acceptable and prevailing standards of safe nursing care or safe dialysis care because of the use of drugs, alcohol, or other chemical substances;

(11) Impairment of the ability to practice according to acceptable and prevailing standards of safe nursing care or safe dialysis care because of a physical or mental disability;

(12) Assaulting or causing harm to a patient or depriving a patient of the means to summon assistance;

(13) Misappropriation or attempted misappropriation of money or anything of value in the course of practice;

(14) Adjudication by a probate court of being mentally ill or mentally incompetent. The board may reinstate the person's nursing license or dialysis technician certificate upon adjudication by a probate court of the person's restoration to competency or upon submission to the board of other proof of competency.

(15) The suspension or termination of employment by the United States department of defense or department of veterans affairs for any act that violates or would violate this chapter;

(16) Violation of this chapter or any rules adopted under it;

(17) Violation of any restrictions placed by the board on a nursing license or dialysis technician certificate;

(18) Failure to use universal and standard precautions established by rules adopted under section 4723.07 of the Revised Code;

(19) Failure to practice in accordance with acceptable and prevailing standards of safe nursing care or safe dialysis care;

(20) In the case of a registered nurse, engaging in activities that exceed the practice of nursing as a registered nurse;

(21) In the case of a licensed practical nurse, engaging in activities that exceed the practice of nursing as a licensed practical nurse;

(22) In the case of a dialysis technician, engaging in activities that exceed those permitted under section 4723.72 of the Revised Code;

(23) Aiding and abetting a person in that person's practice of nursing without a license or practice as a dialysis technician without a certificate issued under this chapter;

(24) In the case of an advanced practice registered nurse, except as provided in division (M) of this section, either of the following:

(a) Waiving the payment of all or any part of a deductible or copayment that a patient,

pursuant to a health insurance or health care policy, contract, or plan that covers such nursing services, would otherwise be required to pay if the waiver is used as an enticement to a patient or group of patients to receive health care services from that provider;

(b) Advertising that the nurse will waive the payment of all or any part of a deductible or copayment that a patient, pursuant to a health insurance or health care policy, contract, or plan that covers such nursing services, would otherwise be required to pay.

(25) Failure to comply with the terms and conditions of participation in the ~~substance-use disorder monitoring safe haven~~ program established under section ~~conducted under sections 4723.35 and 4723.351~~ of the Revised Code;

(26) Failure to comply with the terms and conditions required under the practice intervention and improvement program established under section 4723.282 of the Revised Code;

(27) In the case of an advanced practice registered nurse:

(a) Engaging in activities that exceed those permitted for the nurse's nursing specialty under section 4723.43 of the Revised Code;

(b) Failure to meet the quality assurance standards established under section 4723.07 of the Revised Code.

(28) In the case of an advanced practice registered nurse other than a certified registered nurse anesthetist, failure to maintain a standard care arrangement in accordance with section 4723.431 of the Revised Code or to practice in accordance with the standard care arrangement;

(29) In the case of an advanced practice registered nurse who is designated as a clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner, failure to prescribe drugs and therapeutic devices in accordance with section 4723.481 of the Revised Code;

(30) Prescribing any drug or device to perform or induce an abortion, or otherwise performing or inducing an abortion;

(31) Failure to establish and maintain professional boundaries with a patient, as specified in rules adopted under section 4723.07 of the Revised Code;

(32) Regardless of whether the contact or verbal behavior is consensual, engaging with a patient other than the spouse of the registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or dialysis technician in any of the following:

(a) Sexual contact, as defined in section 2907.01 of the Revised Code;

(b) Verbal behavior that is sexually demeaning to the patient or may be reasonably interpreted by the patient as sexually demeaning.

(33) Assisting suicide, as defined in section 3795.01 of the Revised Code;

(34) Failure to comply with the requirements in section 3719.061 of the Revised Code before issuing for a minor a prescription for an opioid analgesic, as defined in section 3719.01 of the Revised Code;

(35) Failure to comply with section 4723.487 of the Revised Code, unless the state board of pharmacy no longer maintains a drug database pursuant to section 4729.75 of the Revised Code;

(36) The revocation, suspension, restriction, reduction, or termination of clinical privileges by the United States department of defense or department of veterans affairs or the termination or suspension of a certificate of registration to prescribe drugs by the drug enforcement administration of the United States department of justice;

(37) In the case of an advanced practice registered nurse who is designated as a clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner, failure to comply with the terms of a consult agreement entered into with a pharmacist pursuant to section 4729.39 of the Revised Code.

(C) Disciplinary actions taken by the board under divisions (A) and (B) of this section shall be taken pursuant to an adjudication conducted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, except that in lieu of a hearing, the board may enter into a consent agreement with an individual to resolve an allegation of a violation of this chapter or any rule adopted under it. A consent agreement, when ratified by a vote of a quorum, shall constitute the findings and order of the board with respect to the matter addressed in the agreement. If the board refuses to ratify a consent agreement, the admissions and findings contained in the agreement shall be of no effect.

(D) The hearings of the board shall be conducted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code, the board may appoint a hearing examiner, as provided in section 119.09 of the Revised Code, to conduct any hearing the board is authorized to hold under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

In any instance in which the board is required under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code to give notice of an opportunity for a hearing and the applicant, licensee, or certificate holder does not make a timely request for a hearing in accordance with section 119.07 of the Revised Code, the board is not required to hold a hearing, but may adopt, by a vote of a quorum, a final order that contains the board's findings. In the final order, the board may order any of the sanctions listed in division (A) or (B) of this section.

(E) If a criminal action is brought against a registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or dialysis technician for an act or crime described in divisions (B)(3) to (7) of this section and the action is dismissed by the trial court other than on the merits, the board shall conduct an adjudication to determine whether the registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or dialysis technician committed the act on which the action was based. If the board determines on the basis of the adjudication that the registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or dialysis technician committed the act, or if the registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or dialysis technician fails to participate in the adjudication, the board may take action as though the registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or dialysis technician had been convicted of the act.

If the board takes action on the basis of a conviction, plea, or a judicial finding as described in divisions (B)(3) to (7) of this section that is overturned on appeal, the registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or dialysis technician may, on exhaustion of the appeal process, petition the board for reconsideration of its action. On receipt of the petition and supporting court documents, the board shall temporarily rescind its action. If the board determines that the decision on appeal was a

decision on the merits, it shall permanently rescind its action. If the board determines that the decision on appeal was not a decision on the merits, it shall conduct an adjudication to determine whether the registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or dialysis technician committed the act on which the original conviction, plea, or judicial finding was based. If the board determines on the basis of the adjudication that the registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or dialysis technician committed such act, or if the registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or dialysis technician does not request an adjudication, the board shall reinstate its action; otherwise, the board shall permanently rescind its action.

Notwithstanding the provision of division (D)(2) of section 2953.32 or division (F)(1) of section 2953.39 of the Revised Code specifying that if records pertaining to a criminal case are sealed or expunged under that section the proceedings in the case shall be deemed not to have occurred, sealing or expungement of the following records on which the board has based an action under this section shall have no effect on the board's action or any sanction imposed by the board under this section: records of any conviction, guilty plea, judicial finding of guilt resulting from a plea of no contest, or a judicial finding of eligibility for a pretrial diversion program or intervention in lieu of conviction.

The board shall not be required to seal, destroy, redact, or otherwise modify its records to reflect the court's sealing or expungement of conviction records.

(F) The board may investigate an individual's criminal background in performing its duties under this section. As part of such investigation, the board may order the individual to submit, at the individual's expense, a request to the bureau of criminal identification and investigation for a criminal records check and check of federal bureau of investigation records in accordance with the procedure described in section 4723.091 of the Revised Code.

(G) During the course of an investigation conducted under this section, the board may compel any registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or dialysis technician or applicant under this chapter to submit to a mental or physical examination, or both, as required by the board and at the expense of the individual, if the board finds reason to believe that the individual under investigation may have a physical or mental impairment that may affect the individual's ability to provide safe nursing care. ~~Failure~~

The board shall not compel an individual who has been referred to the safe haven program as described in sections 4723.35 and 4723.351 to submit to a mental or physical examination.

Failure of any individual to submit to a mental or physical examination when directed constitutes an admission of the allegations, unless the failure is due to circumstances beyond the individual's control, and a default and final order may be entered without the taking of testimony or presentation of evidence.

If the board finds that an individual is impaired, the board shall require the individual to submit to care, counseling, or treatment approved or designated by the board, as a condition for initial, continued, reinstated, or renewed authority to practice. The individual shall be afforded an

opportunity to demonstrate to the board that the individual can begin or resume the individual's occupation in compliance with acceptable and prevailing standards of care under the provisions of the individual's authority to practice.

For purposes of this division, any registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or dialysis technician or applicant under this chapter shall be deemed to have given consent to submit to a mental or physical examination when directed to do so in writing by the board, and to have waived all objections to the admissibility of testimony or examination reports that constitute a privileged communication.

(H) The board shall investigate evidence that appears to show that any person has violated any provision of this chapter or any rule of the board. Any person may report to the board any information the person may have that appears to show a violation of any provision of this chapter or rule of the board. In the absence of bad faith, any person who reports such information or who testifies before the board in any adjudication conducted under Chapter 119. of the Revised Code shall not be liable for civil damages as a result of the report or testimony.

(I) All of the following apply under this chapter with respect to the confidentiality of information:

(1) Information received by the board pursuant to a complaint or an investigation is confidential and not subject to discovery in any civil action, except that the board may disclose information to law enforcement officers and government entities for purposes of an investigation of either a licensed health care professional, including a registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, or dialysis technician, or a person who may have engaged in the unauthorized practice of nursing or dialysis care. No law enforcement officer or government entity with knowledge of any information disclosed by the board pursuant to this division shall divulge the information to any other person or government entity except for the purpose of a government investigation, a prosecution, or an adjudication by a court or government entity.

(2) If an investigation requires a review of patient records, the investigation and proceeding shall be conducted in such a manner as to protect patient confidentiality.

(3) All adjudications and investigations of the board shall be considered civil actions for the purposes of section 2305.252 of the Revised Code.

(4) Any board activity that involves continued monitoring of an individual as part of or following any disciplinary action taken under this section shall be conducted in a manner that maintains the individual's confidentiality. Information received or maintained by the board with respect to the board's monitoring activities is not subject to discovery in any civil action and is confidential, except that the board may disclose information to law enforcement officers and government entities for purposes of an investigation of a licensee or certificate holder.

(J) Any action taken by the board under this section resulting in a suspension from practice shall be accompanied by a written statement of the conditions under which the person may be reinstated to practice.

(K) When the board refuses to grant a license or certificate to an applicant, revokes a license or certificate, or refuses to reinstate a license or certificate, the board may specify that its action is permanent. An individual subject to permanent action taken by the board is forever ineligible to hold a license or certificate of the type that was refused or revoked and the board shall not accept from the individual an application for reinstatement of the license or certificate or for a new license or certificate.

(L) No unilateral surrender of a nursing license or dialysis technician certificate issued under this chapter shall be effective unless accepted by majority vote of the board. No application for a nursing license or dialysis technician certificate issued under this chapter may be withdrawn without a majority vote of the board. The board's jurisdiction to take disciplinary action under this section is not removed or limited when an individual has a license or certificate classified as inactive or fails to renew a license or certificate.

(M) Sanctions shall not be imposed under division (B)(24) of this section against any licensee who waives deductibles and copayments as follows:

(1) In compliance with the health benefit plan that expressly allows such a practice. Waiver of the deductibles or copayments shall be made only with the full knowledge and consent of the plan purchaser, payer, and third-party administrator. Documentation of the consent shall be made available to the board upon request.

(2) For professional services rendered to any other person licensed pursuant to this chapter to the extent allowed by this chapter and the rules of the board.

Sec. 4723.35. (A) As used in this section and section 4723.351 of the Revised Code:

(1) "Applicant" means an individual who has applied for a license or certificate to practice issued under this chapter. "Applicant" may include an individual who has been granted authority by the board of nursing to practice as one type of practitioner, but has applied for authority to practice as another type of practitioner.

(2) "Impaired" or "impairment" means either or both of the following:

(a) Impairment of the ability to practice as described in division (B)(10) of section 4723.28 of the Revised Code;

(b) Impairment of the ability to practice as described in division (B)(11) of section 4723.28 of the Revised Code.

(3) "Practitioner" means an individual authorized under this chapter to practice as a registered nurse, including as an advanced practice registered nurse, licensed practical nurse, dialysis technician, community health worker, or medication aide.

(B) The board of nursing shall establish the safe haven program to monitor applicants and practitioners who are or may be impaired, but against whom the board has abstained from taking disciplinary action. The program is to be conducted by the monitoring organization under contract with the board as described in section 4723.351 of the Revised Code.

(C)(1) On the establishment of the program, the board may transfer to the monitoring

organization, in whole or in part, either or both of the following responsibilities:

(a) The monitoring and oversight of licensees as part of the substance use disorder program as that program existed on or before the effective date of this section;

(b) The monitoring and oversight of licensees under terms specified in a board adjudication order or consent agreement.

(2) If the board transfers the responsibilities described in division (C)(1) of this section, both of the following apply:

(a) The monitoring organization shall provide to the board quarterly reports regarding the compliance of transferred licensees.

(b) The monitoring organization shall immediately report to the board any licensee who is not in compliance with the terms and conditions of monitoring.

(D) The board shall refer to the monitoring organization any applicant or practitioner whose health and effectiveness show signs of impairment or potential impairment, but only if the applicant or practitioner meets the eligibility conditions of division (G) of this section.

(E) Determinations regarding an applicant's or practitioner's eligibility for admission to, continued participation in, and successful completion of the safe haven program shall be made by the monitoring organization in accordance with rules adopted under section 4723.351 of the Revised Code.

(F) The board shall abstain from taking disciplinary action under section 4723.28, 4723.652, or 4723.86 of the Revised Code against an individual whose health and effectiveness show signs of impairment or potential impairment, but who is not currently under the terms of a consent agreement with the board for impairment or an order issued by the board for impairment if the individual is participating in the safe haven program.

An applicant's or practitioner's impairment neither excuses an applicant or practitioner who has committed other violations of this chapter nor precludes the board from investigating or taking disciplinary action against an applicant or practitioner for other violations of this chapter.

(G) An applicant or practitioner is eligible to participate in the safe haven program if both of the following conditions are met:

(1) The applicant or practitioner needs assistance with impairment or potential impairment.

(2) The applicant or practitioner has an unencumbered license and is not currently under the terms of a consent agreement with the board for impairment or an order issued by the board for impairment.

Sec. 4723.351. (A) To be qualified to contract with the board of nursing to conduct the safe haven program, an organization must meet all of the following requirements:

(1) Operate in this state as a professionals health program;

(2) Be organized as a not-for-profit entity and exempt from federal income taxation under subsection 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code;

(3) Contract with or employ to serve as the organization's medical director an individual who

is authorized under Chapter 4731. of the Revised Code to practice medicine and surgery or osteopathic medicine and surgery and specializes or has training and expertise in addiction medicine or psychiatry;

(4) Contract with or employ one or more licensed health care professionals as necessary for the organization's operation.

(B) The monitoring organization shall do all of the following pursuant to the contract:

(1) Conduct a review of individuals and entities providing impairment evaluation and treatment services to determine which should be approved to serve as the program's evaluators and treatment providers;

(2) Grant or deny approval to evaluators and treatment providers and periodically review and update the program's list of approved evaluators and providers, including by examining their outcomes and operations;

(3) Receive any report of applicant or practitioner impairment or suspected impairment from any source, including board referrals described in section 4723.35 of the Revised Code;

(4) Notify an applicant or practitioner who is the subject of a referral or report received under this section that the referral or report has been made and that the applicant or practitioner may be eligible to participate in the program conducted under this section;

(5) Determine whether an applicant or practitioner referred or reported to the monitoring organization is eligible to participate in the program, which may include evaluating records as described in division (D)(1)(c) of this section, and notify the practitioner or applicant of the determination;

(6) In the case of an applicant or practitioner reported by a treatment provider, notify the treatment provider of the eligibility determination;

(7) Report to the board any practitioner or applicant who is determined ineligible to participate in the program;

(8) Refer an eligible applicant or practitioner who chooses to participate in the program for evaluation by a treatment provider approved by the monitoring organization, unless the report received by the monitoring organization was made by an approved treatment provider and the applicant or practitioner has already been evaluated by the treatment provider;

(9) Monitor the evaluation of an eligible applicant or practitioner;

(10) Refer an eligible applicant or practitioner who chooses to participate in the program to a treatment provider approved by the monitoring organization;

(11) Establish, in consultation with the treatment provider to which an applicant or practitioner is referred, the terms and conditions with which the applicant or practitioner must comply for continued participation in and successful completion of the program;

(12) Report to the board any applicant or practitioner who does not complete evaluation or treatment or does not comply with any of the terms and conditions established by the monitoring organization and the treatment provider;

(13) Perform any other activities specified in the contract with the board or that the monitoring organization considers necessary to comply with this section and section 4723.35 of the Revised Code.

(C) The monitoring organization shall not disclose to the board the name of an applicant or practitioner or any records relating to an applicant or practitioner, unless any of the following occurs:

(1) The applicant or practitioner is determined to be ineligible to participate in the program.

(2) The applicant or practitioner requests the disclosure.

(3) The applicant or practitioner is unwilling or unable to complete or comply with any part of the program, including evaluation, treatment, or monitoring.

(4) The applicant or practitioner presents an imminent danger to the public or to the applicant or practitioner, as a result of the applicant's or practitioner's impairment.

(5) The applicant's or practitioner's impairment has not been substantially alleviated by participation in the program.

(D)(1) The monitoring organization shall develop procedures governing each of the following:

(a) Receiving referrals or reports of applicant or practitioner impairment or potential impairment;

(b) Notifying applicants or practitioners of referrals, reports, and eligibility determinations;

(c) Evaluating records of referred applicants and practitioners, in particular records from other jurisdictions regarding prior treatment for impairment or continued monitoring;

(d) Referring eligible applicants and practitioners for evaluation or treatment;

(e) Establishing individualized treatment plans for eligible applicants and practitioners, as recommended by treatment providers;

(f) Establishing individualized terms and conditions with which eligible applicants or practitioners must comply for continued participation in and successful completion of the program;

(g) Establishing criteria for the approval and periodic review of evaluators and treatment providers, including examinations of evaluator and provider outcomes and operations.

(2) The monitoring organization, in consultation with the board, shall develop procedures governing each of the following:

(a) Providing reports to the board on a periodic basis on the total number of applicants and practitioners participating in the program, without disclosing the names or records of any program participants other than those about whom reports are required by this section;

(b) Reporting to the board any applicant or practitioner who due to impairment presents an imminent danger to the public or to the applicant or practitioner;

(c) Reporting to the board any applicant or practitioner who is unwilling or unable to complete or comply with any part of the program, including evaluation, treatment, or monitoring;

(d) Reporting to the board any applicant or practitioner whose impairment was not

substantially alleviated by participation in the program.

(E) The board may adopt any rules it considers necessary to implement this section and section 4723.35 of the Revised Code, including rules regarding the monitoring organization and treatment providers that provide treatment to practitioners referred by the monitoring organization. Any such rules shall be adopted in accordance with Chapter 119. of the Revised Code.

Sec. 4723.431. (A)(1) An advanced practice registered nurse who is designated as a clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner may practice only in accordance with a standard care arrangement entered into with each physician or podiatrist with whom the nurse collaborates. A copy of the standard care arrangement shall be retained on file by the nurse's employer. Prior approval of the standard care arrangement by the board of nursing is not required, but the board may periodically review it for compliance with this section.

A clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner may enter into a standard care arrangement with one or more collaborating physicians or podiatrists. If a collaborating physician or podiatrist enters into standard care arrangements with more than five nurses, the physician or podiatrist shall not collaborate at the same time with more than five nurses in the prescribing component of their practices.

Not later than thirty days after first engaging in the practice of nursing as a clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner, the nurse shall submit to the board the name and business address of each collaborating physician or podiatrist. Thereafter, the nurse shall notify the board of any additions or deletions to the nurse's collaborating physicians or podiatrists. Except as provided in division (D) of this section, the notice must be provided not later than thirty days after the change takes effect.

(2) All of the following conditions apply with respect to the practice of a collaborating physician or podiatrist with whom a clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner may enter into a standard care arrangement:

(a) The physician or podiatrist must be authorized to practice in this state.

(b) Except as provided in division (A)(2)(c) of this section, the physician or podiatrist must be practicing in a specialty that is the same as or similar to the nurse's nursing specialty.

(c) If the nurse is a clinical nurse specialist who is certified as a psychiatric-mental health CNS by the American nurses credentialing center or a certified nurse practitioner who is certified as a psychiatric-mental health NP by the American nurses credentialing center, the nurse may enter into a standard care arrangement with a physician but not a podiatrist and the collaborating physician must be practicing in one of the following specialties:

(i) Psychiatry;

(ii) Pediatrics;

(iii) Primary care or family practice.

(B) A standard care arrangement shall be in writing and shall contain all of the following:

(1) Criteria for referral of a patient by the clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife,

or certified nurse practitioner to a collaborating physician or podiatrist or another physician or podiatrist;

(2) A process for the clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner to obtain a consultation with a collaborating physician or podiatrist or another physician or podiatrist;

(3) A plan for coverage in instances of emergency or planned absences of either the clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner or a collaborating physician or podiatrist that provides the means whereby a physician or podiatrist is available for emergency care;

(4) The process for resolution of disagreements regarding matters of patient management between the clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner and a collaborating physician or podiatrist;

(5) Any other criteria required by rule of the board adopted pursuant to section 4723.07 or 4723.50 of the Revised Code.

~~(C)(1)-(C)~~ A standard care arrangement entered into pursuant to this section may permit a clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner to ~~supervise~~ do any of the following:

~~(1) Supervise services provided by a home health agency as defined in section 3740.01 of the Revised Code.~~

~~(2) A standard care arrangement entered into pursuant to this section may permit a clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner to admit;~~

~~(2) Admit a patient to a hospital in accordance with section 3727.06 of the Revised Code;~~

~~(3) Sign any document relating to the admission, treatment, or discharge of an inpatient receiving psychiatric or other behavioral health care services, but only if the conditions of section 4723.436 of the Revised Code have been met.~~

(D)(1) Except as provided in division (D)(2) of this section, if a physician or podiatrist terminates the collaboration between the physician or podiatrist and a certified nurse-midwife, certified nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist before their standard care arrangement expires, all of the following apply:

(a) The physician or podiatrist must give the nurse written or electronic notice of the termination.

(b) Once the nurse receives the termination notice, the nurse must notify the board of nursing of the termination as soon as practicable by submitting to the board a copy of the physician's or podiatrist's termination notice.

(c) Notwithstanding the requirement of section 4723.43 of the Revised Code that the nurse practice in collaboration with a physician or podiatrist, the nurse may continue to practice under the existing standard care arrangement without a collaborating physician or podiatrist for not more than one hundred twenty days after submitting to the board a copy of the termination notice.

(2) In the event that the collaboration between a physician or podiatrist and a certified nurse-midwife, certified nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist terminates because of the physician's or podiatrist's death, the nurse must notify the board of the death as soon as practicable. The nurse may continue to practice under the existing standard care arrangement without a collaborating physician or podiatrist for not more than one hundred twenty days after notifying the board of the physician's or podiatrist's death.

(E) Nothing in this section prohibits a hospital from hiring a clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner as an employee and negotiating standard care arrangements on behalf of the employee as necessary to meet the requirements of this section. A standard care arrangement between the hospital's employee and the employee's collaborating physician is subject to approval by the medical staff and governing body of the hospital prior to implementation of the arrangement at the hospital.

Sec. 4723.436. (A) Subject to division (B) of this section, a certified nurse-midwife, clinical nurse specialist, or certified nurse practitioner may sign one or more documents relating to any of the following:

(1) The admission of a patient to a facility for the purpose of receiving psychiatric or other behavioral health care services on an inpatient basis;

(2) The discharge of a patient from a facility after receiving inpatient psychiatric or other behavioral health care services;

(3) The treatment a patient receives while at a facility on an inpatient basis for psychiatric or other behavioral health care services.

The documents may include a treatment plan or any medication order that is part of the treatment plan.

(B) To be eligible to sign documents described in this section, all of the following must be satisfied:

(1) The nurse is employed by the facility in which a patient is receiving psychiatric or other behavioral health care services on an inpatient basis or the nurse has been granted appropriate credentials by the facility;

(2) The nurse's collaborating physician is employed by the facility in which a patient is receiving psychiatric or other behavioral health care services on an inpatient basis or the physician is a member of the facility's medical staff.

(3) The nurse's collaborating physician has authorized the nurse to sign documents described in this section for the physician's patients.

(4) The standard care arrangement entered into pursuant to section 4723.431 of the Revised Code specifies in writing that the nurse is authorized to sign documents described in this section for the collaborating physician's patients.

(C) A collaborating physician who authorizes a nurse to sign one or more documents as described in this section is not liable for damages in a civil action for injury, death, or loss to person

or property for an act or omission that arises from the nurse signing the document, and is not subject to administrative action or criminal prosecution for an act or omission that arises from the nurse signing the document.

Sec. 4730.204. (A) Subject to division (B) of this section, a physician assistant may sign one or more documents relating to any of the following:

(1) The admission of a patient to a health care facility for the purpose of receiving psychiatric or other behavioral health care services on an inpatient basis;

(2) The discharge of a patient from a health care facility after receiving inpatient psychiatric or other behavioral health care services;

(3) The treatment of a patient while at a health care facility on an inpatient basis for psychiatric or other behavioral health care services.

The documents may include a treatment plan or any medication order that is part of the treatment plan.

(B) To be eligible to sign documents described in this section, all of the following must be satisfied:

(1) The physician assistant is employed by the health care facility in which a patient is receiving psychiatric or other behavioral health care services on an inpatient basis or the physician assistant has been granted appropriate credentials by the facility;

(2) The physician assistant's supervising physician is employed by the health care facility in which a patient is receiving psychiatric or other behavioral health care services on an inpatient basis or is a member of the facility's medical staff.

(3) The physician assistant's supervising physician has authorized the physician assistant to sign documents described in this section for the physician's patients.

(4) The policies of the health care facility authorize the physician assistant to sign documents described in this section.

(C) Notwithstanding section 4730.22 of the Revised Code or any other conflicting provision of this chapter, a supervising physician who authorizes a physician assistant to sign one or more documents as described in this section is not liable for damages in a civil action for injury, death, or loss to person or property for an act or omission that arises from the physician assistant signing the document, and is not subject to administrative action or criminal prosecution for an act or omission that arises from the physician assistant signing the document.

SECTION 2. That existing sections 3905.471, 4723.021, 4723.06, 4723.28, and 4723.431 of the Revised Code are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. That section 4723.35 of the Revised Code is hereby repealed.

SECTION 4. That the version of section 4723.431 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect September 30, 2024, be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 4723.431. (A)(1) An advanced practice registered nurse who is designated as a clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner may practice only in accordance with a standard care arrangement entered into with each physician or podiatrist with whom the nurse collaborates. A copy of the standard care arrangement shall be retained on file by the nurse's employer. Prior approval of the standard care arrangement by the board of nursing is not required, but the board may periodically review it for compliance with this section.

A clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner may enter into a standard care arrangement with one or more collaborating physicians or podiatrists. If a collaborating physician or podiatrist enters into standard care arrangements with more than five nurses, the physician or podiatrist shall not collaborate at the same time with more than five nurses in the prescribing component of their practices.

Not later than thirty days after first engaging in the practice of nursing as a clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner, the nurse shall submit to the board the name and business address of each collaborating physician or podiatrist. Thereafter, the nurse shall notify the board of any additions or deletions to the nurse's collaborating physicians or podiatrists. Except as provided in division (D) of this section, the notice must be provided not later than thirty days after the change takes effect.

(2) All of the following conditions apply with respect to the practice of a collaborating physician or podiatrist with whom a clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner may enter into a standard care arrangement:

(a) The physician or podiatrist must be authorized to practice in this state.

(b) Except as provided in division (A)(2)(c) of this section, the physician or podiatrist must be practicing in a specialty that is the same as or similar to the nurse's nursing specialty.

(c) If the nurse is a clinical nurse specialist who is certified as a psychiatric-mental health CNS by the American nurses credentialing center or a certified nurse practitioner who is certified as a psychiatric-mental health NP by the American nurses credentialing center, the nurse may enter into a standard care arrangement with a physician but not a podiatrist and the collaborating physician must be practicing in one of the following specialties:

(i) Psychiatry;

(ii) Pediatrics;

(iii) Primary care or family practice.

(B) A standard care arrangement shall be in writing and shall contain all of the following:

(1) Criteria for referral of a patient by the clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner to a collaborating physician or podiatrist or another physician or podiatrist;

(2) A process for the clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse

practitioner to obtain a consultation with a collaborating physician or podiatrist or another physician or podiatrist;

(3) A plan for coverage in instances of emergency or planned absences of either the clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner or a collaborating physician or podiatrist that provides the means whereby a physician or podiatrist is available for emergency care;

(4) The process for resolution of disagreements regarding matters of patient management between the clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner and a collaborating physician or podiatrist;

(5) Any other criteria required by rule of the board adopted pursuant to section 4723.07 or 4723.50 of the Revised Code.

~~(C)(1)(C)~~ A standard care arrangement entered into pursuant to this section may permit a clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner to ~~supervise~~ do any of the following:

~~(1) Supervise services provided by a home health agency as defined in section 3740.01 of the Revised Code.~~

~~(2) A standard care arrangement entered into pursuant to this section may permit a clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner to admit;~~

(2) Admit a patient to a hospital;

(3) Sign any document relating to the admission, treatment, or discharge of an inpatient receiving psychiatric or other behavioral health care services, but only if the conditions of section 4723.436 of the Revised Code have been met.

(D)(1) Except as provided in division (D)(2) of this section, if a physician or podiatrist terminates the collaboration between the physician or podiatrist and a certified nurse-midwife, certified nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist before their standard care arrangement expires, all of the following apply:

(a) The physician or podiatrist must give the nurse written or electronic notice of the termination.

(b) Once the nurse receives the termination notice, the nurse must notify the board of nursing of the termination as soon as practicable by submitting to the board a copy of the physician's or podiatrist's termination notice.

(c) Notwithstanding the requirement of section 4723.43 of the Revised Code that the nurse practice in collaboration with a physician or podiatrist, the nurse may continue to practice under the existing standard care arrangement without a collaborating physician or podiatrist for not more than one hundred twenty days after submitting to the board a copy of the termination notice.

(2) In the event that the collaboration between a physician or podiatrist and a certified nurse-midwife, certified nurse practitioner, or clinical nurse specialist terminates because of the physician's or podiatrist's death, the nurse must notify the board of the death as soon as practicable. The nurse

may continue to practice under the existing standard care arrangement without a collaborating physician or podiatrist for not more than one hundred twenty days after notifying the board of the physician's or podiatrist's death.

(E) Nothing in this section prohibits a hospital from hiring a clinical nurse specialist, certified nurse-midwife, or certified nurse practitioner as an employee and negotiating standard care arrangements on behalf of the employee as necessary to meet the requirements of this section. A standard care arrangement between the hospital's employee and the employee's collaborating physician is subject to approval by the medical staff and governing body of the hospital prior to implementation of the arrangement at the hospital.

SECTION 5. That the existing version of section 4723.431 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect September 30, 2024, is hereby repealed.

SECTION 6. Sections 4 and 5 of this act take effect September 30, 2024.

SECTION 7. The version of section 4723.431 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect September 30, 2024, is presented in this act as a composite of the section as amended by both Section 101.01 and Section 130.10 of H.B. 110 of the 134th General Assembly. The General Assembly, applying the principle stated in division (B) of section 1.52 of the Revised Code that amendments are to be harmonized if reasonably capable of simultaneous operation, finds that the composite is the resulting version of the section in effect prior to the effective date of the section as presented in this act.

Speaker _____ *of the House of Representatives.*

President _____ *of the Senate.*

Passed _____, 20____

Approved _____, 20____

Governor.

Sub. S. B. No. 81

135th G.A.

The section numbering of law of a general and permanent nature is complete and in conformity with the Revised Code.

Director, Legislative Service Commission.

Filed in the office of the Secretary of State at Columbus, Ohio, on the ____ day of _____, A. D. 20 ____.

Secretary of State.

File No. _____ Effective Date _____