
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1255 Session of
2024

INTRODUCED BY FARRY, JUNE 12, 2024

REFERRED TO CONSUMER PROTECTION AND PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE,
JUNE 12, 2024

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of May 31, 2018 (P.L.123, No.25), entitled "An
2 act providing for outpatient psychiatric oversight," further
3 providing for definitions.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
5 hereby enacts as follows:

6 Section 1. The definition of "advanced practice
7 professional" in section 2 of the act of May 31, 2018 (P.L.123,
8 No.25), known as the Outpatient Psychiatric Oversight Act, is
9 amended to read:

10 Section 2. Definitions.

11 The following words and phrases when used in this act shall
12 have the meanings given to them in this section unless the
13 context clearly indicates otherwise:

14 "Advanced practice professional." A person who:

15 (1) (i) holds a current Pennsylvania license as a
16 certified registered nurse practitioner with a mental
17 health certification; or

18 (ii) obtains a mental health certification within

1 two years of being hired by an outpatient psychiatric
2 clinic or within two years of the effective date of this
3 section, whichever is later; or

4 (2) [(i)] holds a current Pennsylvania license as a
5 physician assistant [with a] who does one of the
6 following:

7 (i) Holds a mental health certification[; or].

8 (ii) [obtains] Obtains a mental health certification
9 within two years of being hired by an outpatient
10 psychiatric clinic or within two years of the effective
11 date of this section, whichever is later.

12 (iii) Has a written agreement with a psychiatrist.

13 * * *

14 Section 2. This act shall take effect in 60 days.