

SB 345

MODERNIZING PA PRACTICE LAWS IN NORTH CAROLINA

Over the last three years, NCAPA has been diligently working to modernize PA practice in North Carolina. In March 2021, Senate Bill 345 was introduced.

PAs are trusted healthcare providers and are often the primary healthcare provider for patients. PAs provide high quality medical care in every setting, putting patients first.

PAs are deeply committed to team-based care and value relationships with other healthcare providers, and SB 345 reinforces that commitment. But practice settings vary and one-size-fits-all approaches and outdated laws just don't work any longer.

Eliminating the legal requirement for experienced PAs to have a specific relationship with one physician will provide flexibility, expand access to care, and reduce healthcare costs. And increasing practice flexibility will help ensure that patients are seen in the right setting, by the right provider, at the right time – reducing the overall cost of healthcare.

WHAT DOES SB 345 DO?



Establishes a supervised career entry interval of 4,000 clinical hours upon entry into PA practice, and a training interval of 1,000 hours if a PA changes specialty.



Defines team-based settings as physician-owned practices, medical practices, and licensed health facilities.



Eliminates the legal requirement for experienced PAs to have a specific relationship with a physician when working in a team-based setting.



Requires PAs to collaborate appropriately based on patient need, PA education and experience level, and standard of care.



Learn more and take action now at
SupportNCPAs.org

WHO IS SPONSORING SB 345?

NCAPA, the North Carolina Medical Society, and the North Carolina Academy of Family Physicians support SB 345, and the bill has six sponsors in the Senate.



SEN.
**JIM
PERRY**



SEN.
**MICHAEL
LEE**



SEN.
**TODD
JOHNSON**



SEN.
**LISA
BARNES**



SEN.
**JIM
BURGIN**



SEN.
**AMY
GALEY**



**North Carolina Academy
of Family Physicians**

WHAT ARE PEOPLE SAYING ABOUT SB 345?

“As a PA who has practiced for almost 40 years in NC as an educator and clinician, I strongly support SB 345. PAs value our relationship with our physician colleagues and want to provide the best care for our patients. Allowing all team members to act in the best interest of the patient without encumbrances is a win-win for everyone.”

L. Gail Curtis, MPAS, PA-C · Associate Professor and Chair, PA Studies · Wake Forest School of Medicine

“This makes me very proud for PAs to be unfettered and able to better serve NC patients.”

Jerry M. Wallace · Chancellor · Campbell University

“We want North Carolina to remain the best place for PAs to practice and are committed to working with our physician colleagues. SB 345 provides a path to a comprehensive team-based care system that we call OTP, Optimal Team Practice, which allows PAs to work to the top of our training and education while reducing administrative barriers to care and improving flexibility throughout the practice.”

Elyse Watkins, DHSc, PA-C · President · NCAPA

“Our task force studied and debated how best to formalize the relationship we have with our PA team members. The NCMS is pleased that this proposal recognizes PAs as an integral part of the health care team.”

Philip Brown, Jr., MD · President · North Carolina Medical Society

HOW CAN YOU **SUPPORT SB 345?**

NCAPA has launched **Support NC PAs**
- an awareness and advocacy effort in support of SB 345.

Learn more, sign up, and take action now at:

SupportNCPAs.com

