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MISSISSIPPI NURSES' ASSOCIATION

Mississippi Nurses' Association

Board of Medical Licensure Oral Hearing on
Proposed Collaboration Rules and Regulations



APRNs throughout the state voiced concerns regarding the Board of Medical Licensure's proposed amendments to Title 30, Professions and Occupations Part 2630 Collaboration/Consultation, Chapter 1: Collaboration/Consultation with Nurse Practitioners.

MNA attended and spoke at the oral hearing held Thursday, November 15th. We greatly appreciate the following individuals speaking at the oral hearing and outlining some of the many adverse impacts these proposed changes may have on the citizens of Mississippi and the APRNs rendering care.

Mr. George Murphy, RN, MSN, FNP-BC
Dr. Teresa Stanford, RN, DNP, FNP-BC
Mr. Dave Ware, CRNA
Mr. Gavin Gist, RN, MSN, ACNP-BC
Ms. KC Arnold, RN, FNP-BC

These members did an excellent job of covering the diverse areas impacted by these proposed changes including physicians being limited to collaborating with 4 APRN's, the adverse impact on CRNAs, hospitals, emergency rooms, nursing homes, and free-standing clinics, as well as the communities and most importantly the patients in Mississippi. The fact that data is readily available to support the positive outcomes applicable to APRN delivered care was also noted.

Mr. Stephen Montagnet, attorney for MNA, addressed concerns about the economic impact statement that had been filed by the Board of Medical Licensure, the direct impact to APRNs these changes would have, even though the Board of Nursing is responsible for oversight of nurses in Mississippi, and addressed legal issues including the potential restraint of trade.

In addition to representatives of MNA, numerous other individuals spoke in opposition to the proposed changes citing many of the same issues voiced by MNA and adding issues such as the following:

- Difficulty in recruitment of physicians due to physicians being concerned when not enough APRNs are available to work in certain areas.
- Current technology allows easy access and adequate communication between APRNs and physicians; therefore, the limitations (40 miles and number of APRNs) is unnecessary.
- At the present time there is no limitation on the number of APRNs with whom a physician can collaborate. The proposed changes would limit the number of APRNs to 4. A suggestion was voiced to amend the proposed changes to increase the number to 8 APRNs as opposed to 4.
- The adverse impact to FQHCs was cited.

The meeting concluded with the Board of Medical Licensure announcing that comments and oral presentations would be presented to the committee for consideration.

MNA will continue to monitor the information provided by the Board of Medical Licensure and will provide updates as more information becomes available. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact our office.

Teresa Malone, Executive Director