2023 APRN Modernization Act

Registered Nurses in Wisconsin are currently prevented from delivering the highest quality care. The goal of this legislation is to remove the outdated titles of Advanced Practice Nurse (APN) and Advanced Practice Nurse Prescriber (APNP) to create a new more accurate and inclusive title of Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN). When passed, Wisconsin will join the 26 other states that have enacted APRN legislation.

Benefits of APRN

- Allows nurses to practice at the top of the scope
- Helps address healthcare staffing shortages
- Provides patients greater access in all healthcare settings
- Helps contain rising healthcare costs

2021 APRN History

- March 8, 2022: Passed the Senate with amendment adopted
- January 25, 2022: Heard and passed on the Senate floor
- December 6, 2021: Executive Hearing in the Senate Committee on Health
- July 28, 2021: Hearing in the Senate Committee on Health
- April 14-15, 2022: Sent to the Governor's desk, Governor vetoed
- February 17, 2022: Heard on the Assembly floor, amendment added
- January 12, 2022: Executive Hearing in the Assembly Committee on Health
- July 29, 2021: Hearing in the Assembly Committee on Health
- May 18, 2021: Cosponsorship Memo sent out

*The first APRN bill was drafted in 2015

APRN Legislation Summary

Licensure
- Creates a simplified system of licensure for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), administered by the Board Of Nursing.
- Establishes 4 recognized roles under an APRN License
  - Certified nurse-midwife
  - Certified registered nurse anesthetist
  - Clinical nurse specialist
  - Nurse practitioner
- Eliminates outdated titles
- Does not add any new requirements for licensure

Relationships
- Requires an APRN to collaborate and refer when managing situations beyond the APRN's expertise
- Establishes a required "High Acuity Emergency Care Plan" for a Certified Nurse Midwife that practice outside of a hospital setting, as a condition of licensure
- Retains employers ability to place additional practice requirements on APRN as a condition of employment, including collaboration with a physician
- Eliminates mandate of written collaborative agreement once experience requirements are met

Prescribing
- Allows national board certified advanced practice nurses to continue to prescribe
- Maintains current educational and training requirements for prescribers
- Grandfathers current prescribers and non-prescribers

Prepared by The Welch Group, 2023