



Campaign for Action...*Just the Facts Please*

Q: Changes in the Scope of Practice Legislation (various bills, etc.) is hard to keep up with. What is the latest on this issue?

A: Agree, this is constantly shifting and bill versions "tweaked". Most recently HB 5400 was introduced by bill sponsor Rep. Ken Yonker (in late February of this year) and referred to the House Health Policy Committee, there was no further action taken before the Michigan legislature went on summer recess until September. While there are similarities to the previous bills (Senate Bill 2 from last session and Senate Bill 68 from this session before it was heavily amended in committee) that define APRN scope of practice in Michigan, there are also a number of differences. Ability of the APRN to diagnosis within her/his scope has been a concern. HB 5400 does allow diagnosis in scope, but without using the word "diagnosis":

- "The use of advanced professional nursing knowledge and skill in the identification of, and discrimination between, physical and psychological signs or symptoms to arrive at a conclusion that a condition exists for which advanced nursing care is indicated or for which a referral to an appropriate medical or community resource is required."

While not likely to gain traction yet this calendar year, this issue could, and should, be a priority during the 2017-18 sessions. This is, indeed, a high MONE priority, and MONE has provided support and testimony to this important nursing legislation.

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