An act relating to physician assistants; amending s. 39.304, F.S.; allowing a physician assistant to perform a medical examination, and to authorize a radiological examination to be performed, on a child who is suspected to be a victim of abuse, abandonment, or neglect; amending ss. 458.347 and 459.022, F.S.; providing for the appointment of a formulary committee to establish a formulary of medicinal drugs that physician assistants may prescribe; providing for terms and meetings of the formulary committee; providing standards for formulary drugs; providing for the Board of Medicine and the Board of Osteopathic Medicine to adopt the formularies; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 39.304, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:

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39.304 Photographs, medical examinations, X rays, and medical treatment of abused, abandoned, or neglected child.--

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(1) Any person required to investigate cases of suspected child abuse, abandonment, or neglect may take or cause to be taken photographs of the areas of trauma visible on a child who is the subject of a report. If the areas of trauma visible on a child indicate a need for a medical examination, or if the child verbally complains or otherwise exhibits distress as a result of injury through suspected

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child abuse, abandonment, or neglect, or is alleged to have been sexually abused, the person required to investigate may 2 3 cause the child to be referred for diagnosis to a licensed 4 physician or an emergency department in a hospital without the 5 consent of the child's parents, caregiver, or legal custodian. Such an examination may be performed by an advanced registered 6 7 nurse practitioner licensed under pursuant to chapter 464 or a 8 physician assistant licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459. 9 Any licensed physician, physician assistant licensed under chapter 458 or chapter 459, or advanced registered nurse 10 practitioner licensed under pursuant to chapter 464, who has 11 12 reasonable cause to suspect that an injury was the result of 13 child abuse, abandonment, or neglect may authorize a 14 radiological examination to be performed on the child without 15 the consent of the child's parent, caregiver, or legal 16 custodian.

Section 2. Paragraph (f) of subsection (4) of section 458.347, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:

458.347 Physician assistants.--

- (4) PERFORMANCE OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS.--
- (f)1. There is created a five-member committee appointed by the Secretary of Health. The committee must be composed of one fully licensed physician assistant licensed under pursuant to this section or s. 459.022, two physicians licensed under pursuant to this chapter, one of whom supervises a fully licensed physician assistant, one osteopathic physician licensed under pursuant to chapter 459, and one pharmacist licensed under pursuant to chapter 465 who is not licensed under pursuant to this chapter or chapter 459. All members of the formulary committee shall be appointed for

initial terms commencing July 1, 1999. Committee members shall be appointed to terms of 4 years, except that, of the initial appointments, two members shall be appointed for terms of 2 years, two shall be appointed for terms of 3 years, and one shall be appointed for a term of 4 years. The committee shall meet at least quarterly to establish a formulary of medicinal drugs that for which a fully licensed physician assistant may prescribe. The formulary may not include controlled substances as defined in chapter 893, antineoplastics, antipsychotics, radiopharmaceuticals, general anesthetics, or radiographic contrast materials, or any parenteral preparations except insulin and epinephrine.

- 2. Only the committee shall add to, delete from, or modify the formulary. Any person who requests an addition, deletion, or modification of a medicinal drug listed on such formulary has the burden of proof to show cause why such addition, deletion, or modification should be made.
- 3. The boards shall adopt the formulary required by this paragraph, and each addition, deletion, or modification to the formulary, by rule. Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 120 to the contrary, the formulary rule shall be effective 60 days after the date it is filed with the Secretary of State. Upon adoption of the formulary, the department shall mail a copy of such formulary to each fully licensed physician assistant and to each pharmacy licensed by the state. The boards shall establish, by rule, a fee not to exceed \$200 to fund the provisions of this paragraph and paragraph (e). The Board of Medicine shall adopt the formulary required by this paragraph and shall adopt each subsequent change at its next regular meeting following receipt of the formulary from the formulary committee.

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Section 3. Paragraph (f) of subsection (4) of section 459.022, Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, is amended to read:

459.022 Physician assistants.--

- (4) PERFORMANCE OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS. --
- (f)1. There is created a five-member committee appointed by the Secretary of Health. The committee must be composed of one fully licensed physician assistant licensed under pursuant to this section or s. 458.347, two physicians licensed under pursuant to chapter 458, one of whom supervises a fully licensed physician assistant, one osteopathic physician licensed under pursuant to this chapter, and one pharmacist licensed under pursuant to chapter 465 who is not licensed under pursuant to this chapter or chapter 458. All members of the formulary committee shall be appointed for initial terms commencing July 1, 1999. Committee members shall be appointed to terms of 4 years, except that, of the initial appointments, two members shall be appointed for terms of 2 years, two shall be appointed for terms of 3 years, and one shall be appointed for a term of 4 years. The committee shall meet at least quarterly to establish a formulary of medicinal drugs that for which a fully licensed physician assistant may prescribe. The formulary may not include controlled substances as defined in chapter 893, antineoplastics, antipsychotics, radiopharmaceuticals, general anesthetics, or radiographic contrast materials, or any parenteral preparations except insulin and epinephrine.
- 2. Only the committee shall add to, delete from, or modify the formulary. Any person who requests an addition, deletion, or modification of a medicinal drug listed on such

30 31 formulary has the burden of proof to show cause why such addition, deletion, or modification should be made.

3. The boards shall adopt the formulary required by this paragraph, and each addition, deletion, or modification to the formulary, by rule. Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 120 to the contrary, the formulary rule shall be effective 60 days after the date it is filed with the Secretary of State. Upon adoption of the formulary, the department shall mail a copy of such formulary to each fully licensed physician assistant and to each pharmacy licensed by the state. The boards shall establish, by rule, a fee not to exceed \$200 to fund the provisions of this paragraph and paragraph (e). The Board of Osteopathic Medicine shall adopt the formulary required by this paragraph and shall adopt each subsequent change at its next regular meeting following receipt of the formulary from the formulary committee.

Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 1999.