

By Representative Boyd

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to nursing; amending s.
3 464.003, F.S.; defining the term "telehealth";
4 amending ss. 464.015 and 464.016, F.S.;
5 prohibiting persons from using the name or
6 title of "nurse" unless licensed or certified
7 as such; providing penalties; providing an
8 effective date.

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

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12 Section 1. Subsection (8) is added to section 464.003,
13 Florida Statutes, 1998 Supplement, to read:

14 464.003 Definitions.--As used in this chapter:

15 (8) "Telehealth" means the use of telecommunication
16 technologies to deliver health care services authorized under
17 this chapter to a patient by transporting the patient to a
18 licensed health care practitioner's office by use of
19 telecommunications. The site of service for such health care
20 services is the location of the practitioner when practicing
21 through the use of telecommunication technologies, so long as
22 the practitioner has an active license to practice in that
23 location.

24 Section 2. Subsection (6) of section 464.015, Florida
25 Statutes, is amended to read:

26 464.015 Titles and abbreviations; restrictions;
27 penalty.--

28 (6) No person shall practice or advertise as, or
29 assume the title of, nurse, registered nurse, licensed
30 practical nurse, or advanced registered nurse practitioner or
31 use the abbreviation "R.N.," "L.P.N.," or "A.R.N.P." or take

1 any other action that would lead the public to believe that
2 person was certified as such or is performing nursing services
3 pursuant to the exception set forth in s. 464.022(8), unless
4 that person is licensed or certified to practice as such.

5 (7) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor of
6 the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.
7 775.083.

8 Section 3. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section
9 464.016, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

10 464.016 Violations and penalties.--

11 (2) Each of the following acts constitutes a
12 misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.
13 775.082 or s. 775.083:

14 (a) Using the name or title "Nurse," "Registered
15 Nurse," "Licensed Practical Nurse," "Advanced Registered Nurse
16 Practitioner," or any other name or title which implies that a
17 person was licensed or certified as same, unless such person
18 is duly licensed or certified.

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

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22 HOUSE SUMMARY

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24 Defines the term "telehealth" for purposes of the Nurse
25 Practice Act. Prohibits persons from using the name or
26 title of "nurse" unless licensed or certified as such,
27 violation of which is a first degree misdemeanor.

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