



508632

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/12/2026	.	
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The Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services  
(Sharief) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. Subsections (8) and (10) of section 464.015,  
Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

464.015 Titles and abbreviations; restrictions; penalty.—

(8) Only persons who hold valid licenses to practice as  
advanced practice registered nurses in this state may use the  
title "Advanced Practice Registered Nurse" and the abbreviation



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"A.P.R.N."

(a) A licensed advanced practice registered nurse who also holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree or a Doctor of Nursing Practice degree may use the title "Doctor of Philosophy" and the abbreviation "Ph.D.," or the title "Doctor of Nursing Practice" and the abbreviation "D.N.P.," respectively, in a manner consistent with the doctoral degree such person holds.

(b) A person authorized under paragraph (a) to use a title or abbreviation associated with a doctoral degree in a clinical setting may not hold himself or herself out as a doctor to patients or prospective patients in advertising produced directly by the practitioner, including signage or written communication, using such title or abbreviation without also clearly denoting his or her licensed profession.

(10) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083, except for violations of paragraph (8)(a) or paragraph (8)(b). Violations of paragraph (8)(a) or paragraph (8)(b) constitute grounds for disciplinary action under s. 464.018(1)(o).

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause  
and insert:

A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to the use of professional nursing  
titles; amending s. 464.015, F.S.; providing that



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40 licensed advanced practice registered nurses who hold  
41 specified degrees may use titles and abbreviations  
42 associated with those degrees in a specified manner;  
43 prohibiting such persons from holding themselves out  
44 to patients or prospective patients as a doctor in  
45 advertising without also clearly denoting their  
46 licensed profession; providing for disciplinary  
47 action; providing an effective date.