



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: RCS	.	
02/12/2026	.	
	.	
	.	
	.	

The Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services (Sharief) recommended the following:

1 **Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

2
3 Delete everything after the enacting clause
4 and insert:

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

7 464.015 Titles and abbreviations; restrictions; penalty.—

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



508632

11 "A.P.R.N."

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

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

25 (10) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the
26 first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.
27 775.083, except for violations of paragraph (8) (a) or paragraph
28 (8) (b). Violations of paragraph (8) (a) or paragraph (8) (b)
29 constitute grounds for disciplinary action under s.
30 464.018(1) (o).

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

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

34 And the title is amended as follows:

35 Delete everything before the enacting clause
36 and insert:

37 A bill to be entitled

38 An act relating to the use of professional nursing
39 titles; amending s. 464.015, F.S.; providing that



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.