



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

House

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

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

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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



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 may not hold
20 himself or herself out to a patient, a prospective patient, or
21 the public at large as a doctor without using such title or
22 abbreviation authorized under paragraph (a) or clearly
23 specifying his or her licensed profession.

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

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

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

32 And the title is amended as follows:

33 Delete everything before the enacting clause
34 and insert:

35 A bill to be entitled
36 An act relating to the use of professional nursing
37 titles; amending s. 464.015, F.S.; providing that
38 licensed advanced practice registered nurses who hold
39 specified degrees may use titles and abbreviations



40 associated with those degrees in a specified manner;
41 prohibiting such persons from holding themselves out
42 to a patient, a prospective patient, or the public at
43 large as a doctor under certain circumstances;
44 providing for disciplinary action; providing an
45 effective date.