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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

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



606532

"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 may not hold himself or herself out to a patient, a prospective patient, or the public at large as a doctor without using such title or abbreviation authorized under paragraph (a) or clearly specifying 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 paragraphs (8)(a) or (b). Violations of paragraphs (8)(a) or (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 licensed advanced practice registered nurses who hold specified degrees may use titles and abbreviations



606532

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.