

SB 5325 - H COMM AMD  
By Committee on Education

NOT CONSIDERED 01/05/2018

1 Strike everything after the enacting clause and insert the  
2 following:

3 "NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** (1) The legislature finds that:

4 (a) A registered nurse or an advanced registered nurse  
5 practitioner working in a school setting is authorized and  
6 responsible for the nursing care of students to the extent that the  
7 care is within the practice of nursing. A school administrator may  
8 supervise a registered nurse or an advanced registered nurse  
9 practitioner in aspects of employment other than the practice of  
10 nursing;

11 (b) Nursing is governed by specific laws and regulations and  
12 requires a unique license to practice. Clinical supervision of a  
13 nurse is based on knowledge of the laws, regulations, and rules  
14 governing nursing practice, nursing practice standards, and nursing  
15 performance standards;

16 (c) Student health needs have changed dramatically over the last  
17 twenty years. The number of students with special health care needs  
18 has risen exponentially;

19 (d) School nurses are held accountable through chapter 18.79 RCW  
20 and the uniform disciplinary act, chapter 18.130 RCW, for errors in  
21 nursing judgment and actions;

22 (e) Individuals who are not nurses are unqualified to make  
23 nursing judgments and assessments;

24 (f) The independent nature of nursing has been recognized in both  
25 statute and rule. For example, under RCW 18.79.040, "registered  
26 nursing practice" includes the "administration, supervision,  
27 delegation, and evaluation of nursing practice." Furthermore,  
28 continuing competency rules recently adopted by the nursing care  
29 quality assurance commission recognize and acknowledge the  
30 independent nature of nursing; and

1 (g) The ability of a nurse to practice nursing without the  
2 supervision of a nonnurse supervisor is particularly important given  
3 the primacy of the nurse-patient relationship.

4 (2) It is therefore the intent of the legislature to reaffirm the  
5 authority of a licensed nurse working in a school setting to practice  
6 nursing without the supervision of a person who is not a licensed  
7 nurse.

8 (3) It is not the intent of the legislature to:

9 (a) Prohibit a nonnurse from supervising a licensed nurse working  
10 in a school setting with respect to matters other than the practice  
11 of nursing, such as matters of administration, terms and conditions  
12 of employment, and employee performance; or

13 (b) Require a school to provide clinical supervision for a  
14 licensed nurse working in a school setting.

15 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 28A.210  
16 RCW to read as follows:

17 (1)(a) A registered nurse or an advanced registered nurse  
18 practitioner licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW working in a school  
19 setting is authorized and responsible for the nursing care of  
20 students to the extent that the care is within the practice of  
21 nursing as defined in this section.

22 (b) A school administrator may supervise a registered nurse or an  
23 advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed under chapter 18.79  
24 RCW in aspects of employment other than the practice of nursing as  
25 defined in this section.

26 (c) Only a registered nurse or an advanced registered nurse  
27 practitioner licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW may supervise, direct,  
28 or evaluate a licensed nurse working in a school setting with respect  
29 to the practice of nursing as defined in this section.

30 (2) Nothing in this section:

31 (a) Prohibits a nonnurse supervisor from supervising, directing,  
32 or evaluating a licensed nurse working in a school setting with  
33 respect to matters other than the practice of nursing;

34 (b) Requires a registered nurse or an advanced registered nurse  
35 practitioner to be clinically supervised in a school setting; or

36 (c) Prohibits a nonnurse supervisor from conferring with a  
37 licensed nurse working in a school setting with respect to the  
38 practice of nursing.

1 (3) Within existing funds, the superintendent of public  
2 instruction shall notify each school district in this state of the  
3 requirements of this section.

4 (4) For purposes of this section, "practice of nursing" means:

5 (a) Registered nursing practice as defined in RCW 18.79.040,  
6 advanced registered nursing practice as defined in RCW 18.79.050, and  
7 licensed practical nursing practice as defined in RCW 18.79.060,  
8 including, but not limited to:

9 (i) The administration of medication pursuant to a medication or  
10 treatment order; and

11 (ii) The decision to summon emergency medical assistance; and

12 (b) Compliance with any state or federal statute or  
13 administrative rule specifically regulating licensed nurses,  
14 including any statute or rule defining or establishing standards of  
15 patient care or professional conduct or practice."

16 Correct the title.

EFFECT: Replaces language stating that school administrators may not interfere with nursing care provided by a registered nurse (RN) or an advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP) working in a school setting with language providing that a RN or an ARNP working in a school setting is authorized and responsible for the nursing care of students to the extent that the care is within the practice of nursing.

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