

SENATE NO. 1236

AN ACT RELATING TO ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSES

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled,
And by the authority of the same, as follows:*

1 SECTION 1. Section 80B of Chapter 112 of the Massachusetts General Laws, as so appearing
2 in the 2004 Official Edition is hereby amended by striking the second paragraph and inserting in
3 place there of the following:--

4 “Nursing practice involves clinical decision making leading to the development and
5 implementation of a strategy of care to accomplish defined goals, the administration of
6 medication, therapeutics and treatment prescribed by duly authorized nurses in advanced
7 practice, as defined by the board of registration in nursing; dentists; physicians; and physician
8 assistants’ and the evaluation of responses to care and treatment. It shall include, but not be
9 limited to the performance of services which promote and support optimal functioning across
10 the life span; the collaboration with other members of the health team to achieve defined goals;
11 health counseling and teaching; the provision of comfort measures; teaching and supervising
12 others; and participation in research which contributes to the expansion of nursing knowledge.”

13 SECTION 2. Section 80B of said Chapter 112, is further amended by striking the sixth
14 paragraph and inserting in place thereof the following paragraph:- “Advanced practice nursing

15 regulations which govern the ordering and interpretation of tests, therapeutics and prescribing of
16 medications shall be promulgated by the board.”

17 SECTION 3. Section 80E of said Chapter 112, is hereby amended by striking the entire section
18 and inserting thereof the following section: - “Section 80E. A nurse authorized to practice as a
19 certified nurse practitioner or a certified psychiatric nurse mental health clinical specialist may
20 order and interpret tests, therapeutics and prescribe medications in accordance with regulations
21 promulgated by the board and subject to the provisions of paragraph (i) of section seven of
22 chapter ninety-four C.”

23 SECTION 4. Section 80G of said Chapter 112 is hereby amended by striking the entire section
24 and inserting in place thereof the following new section:- “Section 80G. A nurse authorized to
25 practice as a certified nurse-midwife may order and interpret tests, therapeutics and prescribe
26 medications in accordance with regulations promulgated by the board and subject to the
27 provisions of paragraph (i) of section seven of chapter ninety-four C.”

28 SECTION 5. Said Chapter 112 is hereby further amended by adding the following new section:-
29 “Section 80H. A nurse authorized to practice as a certified nurse anesthetist may order and
30 interpret tests, therapeutics and prescribe medications in accordance with regulations
31 promulgated by the board and subject to the provisions of paragraph (i) of section seven of
32 chapter ninety-four C.”

33 SECTION 6. Section 1 of Chapter 94C of the General Laws, as so appearing in the 2004
34 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding a new subsection to the definition of
35 “Practitioner”:- “(d) An Advanced Practice Nurse authorized by sections 80B, 80E, 80G, and

36 80H of Chapter 112 and registered pursuant in paragraph (i) of section 7 to utilize and prescribe
37 therapeutic pharmaceutical agents in the course of professional practice in the commonwealth.”

38 SECTION 7. Section 7 of said Chapter 94C is hereby amended by striking out paragraphs two
39 and three in subsection (g).

40 SECTION 8. Section 7 of said Chapter 94C is hereby further amended at the end thereof with
41 the following:- “(i) The commissioner shall promulgate regulations which provide for the
42 automatic registration of advanced practice nurses, upon the receipt of the fee as herein
43 provided, to written issue prescriptions in accordance with the provisions of sections 80B, 80E,
44 80G, and 80H of chapter 112, unless the registration of such advanced practice nurse has been
45 suspended or revoked pursuant to the provisions of section 13 or section 14 or unless such
46 registration is denied for cause by the commissioner pursuant to the provisions of chapter 30A.
47 Prior to promulgating such regulations, the commissioner shall consult with the board of
48 registration in nursing.”