

**BILL SUMMARY**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 59<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>HB3965</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>FA1</b>
<b>Request Number:</b>	<b>10741</b>
<b>Author:</b>	<b>Rep. McEntire</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>3/13/2024</b>
<b>Impact:</b>	<b>No Impact</b>

**Research Analysis**

The floor substitute to House Bill 3965 authorizes physician assistants (PAs) who have met the required hours of post-graduate clinical experience to practice prescriptive authority without supervision.

The measure stipulates that if a PA is required to practice medicine under supervision, the services rendered must fall within the scope of the supervising physician's practice. The measure also requires that practice agreements between a PA and a delegating physician concerning the scope of the PA's practice must include the scope of and any limitations on prescribing.

The measure expands the Physician Assistant Committee from seven to nine members and requires that five members be PAs appointed by the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision from a list of qualified individuals submitted by the Oklahoma Academy of Physician Assistants.

The measure provides that PAs must have a license approved by the State Board to provide health care services. The State Board is required to create and maintain a form on its website for reporting hours of postgraduate clinical experience. Those with at least 6,240 hours of postgraduate clinical experience who have reported their hours to the State Board are exempt from practicing under physician supervision. The Board maintains a list of such PAs.

The measure authorizes PAs working under a practice agreement to prescribe written and oral prescriptions, medical supplies, services, and drugs, including controlled substances in Schedules II through V. However, prescriptions for Schedule II drugs must be included in a written protocol determined by the delegating physician. PAs cannot dispense drugs but can request, receive, and distribute professional samples to patients. They are restricted from prescribing controlled medications in a schedule for which the delegating physician is not registered to prescribe.

The measure also requires licensed practitioners or their employers to have malpractice insurance with minimum coverage of \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$3,000,000 in total per year or show proof of financial responsibility.

**CHANGES IN FLOOR SUBSTITUTE VERSION FROM COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE**

The floor substitute adds a new section requiring malpractice insurance for licensed practitioners.

Prepared By: Matthew Brenchley

**Fiscal Analysis**

In its current form, HB3965 provides for several changes to the authorities granted to physician assistants. The measure also expands the Physician Assistant committee from seven members to nine members.

HB3965 also requires the State Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision to maintain a form on its website for reporting hours of post-graduate clinical experience, and to maintain a list of physician assistants that have at least 6,240 hours of post-graduate clinical experience.

The floor amendment adds a section requiring licensed practitioners to have malpractice insurance.

This measure is not expected to impact state revenue or state appropriations.

Prepared By: Zach Penrod

**Other Considerations**

None.