

Nevada State Board of **NURSING**

April 10, 2014

Dear Nursing Stakeholder:

You are receiving this letter to advise you of the recent changes in the regulation of advanced practice registered nurses in the state of Nevada.

On February 25, 2013, Assembly Bill (AB) 170 was introduced by Assemblywoman Maggie Carlton. AB 170 revised various provisions regarding advanced practice nursing including changing the professional title of the Advanced Practitioner of Nursing (APN) to an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN). In addition, AB 170 removed the requirement for an APRN to maintain a collaborative agreement with a physician and allows APRNs to practice to the fullest extent of their nationally recognized scope of practice based on their education and competency level within a designated role and population focus. Although, if an APRN has not practiced for more than 2 years or 2,000 hours and wishes to prescribe Schedule II Controlled Substances that APRN must have prescribing protocols, approved by a physician, and submit a copy of those protocols to the Nevada State Board of Nursing.

Further changes resulting from AB 170 and the subsequent codified regulations include the requirement for an APRN to maintain a policy of professional liability insurance, the requirement to maintain a professional portfolio to prove competency and changed the issuance of an APRN certificate to an APRN license. AB 170 was signed into law by Governor Brian Sandoval and became effective July 1, 2013.

Subsequently, the Nevada State Board of Nursing successfully codified regulations identified in LCB File R114-13 to comply with AB 170. Both documents can be found in full print on the Nevada Legislative website at leg.state.nv.us.

The changes identified above bring Nevada in relative conformity with a national movement identified in National Council of State Boards of Nursing's Consensus Model for APRN regulation. The consensus provides uniformity in education and state regulations that has previously limited the availability of patients' access to primary care and specifically APRN care; thus, resulting in increased access to high quality, cost-effective care for Nevada's citizens.

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License numbers for all APRNs in Nevada were not affected. The only change that occurred is the prefix of APN to APRN, e.g. APN12345 is now APRN 12345. Licensure status is available on our website 24 hours a day 7 days a week.

If you have further questions regarding the recent changes for APRN practice please feel free to call our toll free number at 1-888-590-6726. Additional information can also be found on our website at www.nevadanursingboard.org.

Thank you,
NEVADA STATE BOARD OF NURSING



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