

Legislative Update for Nurse Practitioners

[Session Law 2024-53 Senate Bill 743](#) (located on pages 13-14; details listed below) included temporarily waiving requirements for a Collaborative Practice Agreement or Quality Improvement for Nurse Practitioners **who reside in or are employed in the areas affected by Hurricane Helene**. The following counties or territories in Western North Carolina were identified: Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Clay, Cleveland, Gaston, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yancey Counties, and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

TEMPORARY FLEXIBILITY FOR QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLANS

SECTION 4B.3.(a) Waiver of Collaborative Practice Agreement Rules. – Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, neither the North Carolina Medical Board nor the North Carolina Board of Nursing shall enforce any provision of the annual review rules or the quality improvement plan rules for collaborative practice agreements under (i) 21 NCAC 36 .0806, .0810, .0813, (ii) 21 NCAC 32S.0204, .0213, and (iii) 21 NCAC 32M .0110 Page 14 Session Law 2024-53 Senate Bill 743 and .0115 if the physician assistant or nurse practitioner resides in or is employed in the affected area.

SECTION 4B.3.(b) Waiver of Fees. – Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, neither the North Carolina Medical Board nor the North Carolina Board of Nursing shall enforce any provision of the rules listed in subsection (a) of this section to the extent they require any individual to fill out an application or pay a fee, provided that individual (i) is providing volunteer health care services in the affected area to assist with disaster recovery and relief efforts within the scope of his or her license or (ii) qualifies under subsection (a) of this section.

SECTION 4B.3.(c) Limitation. – Any physician assistant or nurse practitioner holding an approval to practice or a license that has been surrendered or is currently suspended due to disciplinary action does not qualify for the waivers under this section.

SECTION 4B.3.(d) Expiration. – This section expires when the statewide declaration of emergency issued by the Governor in Executive Order No. 315, concurred to by the Council of State and as extended pursuant to S.L. 2024-51 and any other enactment of a general law, expires.

If you have questions about this Enacted Legislation or the Emergency Temporary Waivers, email aprnpractice@ncbon.com.

