

Press Release ...



...from State Representative Sara Feigenholtz

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

State Rep. Sara Feigenholtz

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Feigenholtz Nurse Practice Act Legislation Signed Into Law **Strengthening Healthcare Delivery in Illinois**

Springfield, Ill. – Legislation sponsored by State Representative Sara Feigenholtz, D-Chicago, that modernizes the Illinois Nurse Practice Act, which sunsets every ten years, has been signed into law. House Bill 313 includes critical updates to the Nurse Practice Act.

The new law modernizes the Licensed Practice Nurse (LPN), Registered Nurse (RN), and Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) scope of practice, which is needed to meet the growing need in Illinois healthcare systems. It will provide improved patient access beyond the hospital setting, and pave the way for community care, which is becoming more prevalent in the health care delivery system.

The law now more closely mirrors reality in today's community healthcare model by recognizing it is nurses who coordinate quality care in all care settings, and allows them to be more directly active in a patient's healthcare needs.

“As the daughter of a doctor, I am well aware of the hard work and long hours that medical professionals put into the healing arts. Nurses are the primary point of contact most people have with our health care system, and their work is critical to the lives of millions of Illinoisans,” said Feigenholtz.

As a result of the changes to the act, Illinoisans will now have opportunity for greater access to the care of an APRN when mandates for a written collaborative agreement are removed, effective January 1, 2018, after meeting the following criteria:

- Proof of practicing 4000 hours with a physician per a written collaborative agreement.
- 250 hours of documented continuing education in the APRN specialty after initial national certification.

HB313 also extends the 10-year sunset of the Illinois Nurse Practice Act from January 1, 2018 to January 1, 2028.

The bill passed both chambers of the General Assembly with unanimous legislative support. For full text of HB313, [click here](#). For more information, contact Feigenholtz's constituent services office at (773) 296-4141 or sara@staterepsara.com.

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