

1 SB131  
2 181520-1  
3 By Senator Dial  
4 RFD: Health and Human Services  
5 First Read: 09-FEB-17

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8 SYNOPSIS: Under existing law, advanced practice nurses  
9 are licensed by the Board of Nursing.

10 This bill would revise the titles of certain  
11 types of advanced practice registered nurses and  
12 revise the scope of practice of advanced practice  
13 nursing.

14 This bill would authorize clinical nurse  
15 specialists to engage in collaborative practices  
16 with licensed physicians in certain circumstances.

17 This bill would also prohibit an individual  
18 from engaging in the practice of advanced practice  
19 nursing unless he or she is certified by the Board  
20 of Nursing and provide for penalties.

21 Amendment 621 of the Constitution of Alabama  
22 of 1901, now appearing as Section 111.05 of the  
23 Official Recompilation of the Constitution of  
24 Alabama of 1901, as amended, prohibits a general  
25 law whose purpose or effect would be to require a  
26 new or increased expenditure of local funds from  
27 becoming effective with regard to a local

1 governmental entity without enactment by a 2/3 vote  
2 unless: it comes within one of a number of  
3 specified exceptions; it is approved by the  
4 affected entity; or the Legislature appropriates  
5 funds, or provides a local source of revenue, to  
6 the entity for the purpose.

7 The purpose or effect of this bill would be  
8 to require a new or increased expenditure of local  
9 funds within the meaning of the amendment. However,  
10 the bill does not require approval of a local  
11 governmental entity or enactment by a 2/3 vote to  
12 become effective because it comes within one of the  
13 specified exceptions contained in the amendment.

14  
15 A BILL  
16 TO BE ENTITLED  
17 AN ACT  
18

19 Relating to advanced practice nursing; to amend  
20 Sections 34-21-80, 34-21-81, 34-21-83 to 34-21-92, inclusive,  
21 Code of Alabama 1975; to add a new Section 34-21-90.1 to the  
22 Code of Alabama 1975; to revise the titles of certain types of  
23 advanced practice registered nurses and revise the scope of  
24 practice of advanced practice nursing; to authorize clinical  
25 nurse specialists to engage in collaborative practices with  
26 licensed physicians in certain circumstances; to prohibit an  
27 individual from engaging in the practice of advanced practice

1 nursing unless he or she is certified by the Board of Nursing  
2 and provide for penalties; and in connection therewith would  
3 have as its purpose or effect the requirement of a new or  
4 increased expenditure of local funds within the meaning of  
5 Amendment 621 of the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, now  
6 appearing as Section 111.05 of the Official Recompilation of  
7 the Constitution of Alabama of 1901, as amended.

8 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA:

9 Section 1. Sections 34-21-80, 34-21-81, 34-21-83 to  
10 34-21-92, inclusive, Code of Alabama 1975, are amended to read  
11 as follows:

12 "§34-21-80.

13 "The Legislature of the State of Alabama declares  
14 that the recognition and regulation of all areas of advanced  
15 practice nursing and the collaborative practices between  
16 licensed physicians and certified ~~registered~~ nurse  
17 practitioners, and certified nurse midwives, and clinical  
18 nurse specialists are essential to protect and maintain the  
19 public health and safety.

20 "§34-21-81.

21 "As used in this article, the following terms shall  
22 have the following meanings:

23 "(1) BOARD OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS. The State Board of  
24 Medical Examiners established pursuant to Section 34-24-53.

25 "(2) BOARD OF NURSING. The Board of Nursing  
26 established under Section 34-21-2.

1           "(3) ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE. A  
2 registered nurse ~~that~~ who has gained additional knowledge and  
3 skills through successful completion of an organized program  
4 of nursing education that prepares nurses for advanced  
5 practice roles and who has been certified by the Board of  
6 Nursing to engage in the practice of advanced practice  
7 nursing. ~~There shall be four categories of advanced practice~~  
8 ~~nurses~~ in one of the following categories: Certified  
9 ~~registered nurse practitioners (CRNP) practitioner, certified~~  
10 ~~nurse midwives (CNM) midwife, certified registered nurse~~  
11 ~~anesthetists (CRNA) anesthetist, and or~~ clinical nurse  
12 ~~specialists (CNS) specialist. An advanced practice registered~~  
13 ~~nurse is an independent practitioner within nursing standards,~~  
14 ~~collaborative practice rules, or both, established or~~  
15 ~~recognized by the Board of Nursing and the Alabama Board of~~  
16 ~~Medical Examiners as follows:~~

17           "a. Certified ~~registered~~ nurse practitioners and  
18 certified nurse midwives are subject to collaborative practice  
19 agreements with an Alabama physician.

20           "b. Clinical nurse specialists may apply to enter  
21 into collaborative practice agreements with Alabama physicians  
22 subject to established protocols recognized by the board and  
23 the Board of Medical Examiners that are developed and based on  
24 their specific scope of practice as defined by their  
25 certifying agency.

26           "c. Certified registered nurse anesthetists ~~and~~  
27 ~~clinical nurse specialists~~ are not subject to collaborative

1 practice agreements with an Alabama physician and are not  
2 subject to the requirements of Sections 34-21-82, 34-21-83,  
3 and 34-21-85 to 34-21-92, inclusive, and are prohibited from  
4 engaging in any of the acts or functions of a certified  
5 ~~registered~~ nurse practitioner ~~(CRNP)~~ or a certified nurse  
6 midwife ~~(CNM)~~ as established by this article and ~~regulations~~  
7 rules adopted under this article.

8 "(4) ADVANCED PRACTICE NURSING. The delivery of  
9 health care services by advanced practice registered nurses  
10 within one of the following scopes of practice ~~who have gained~~  
11 ~~additional knowledge and skills through successful completion~~  
12 ~~of an organized program of nursing education that prepares~~  
13 ~~nurses for advanced practice roles as certified registered~~  
14 ~~nurse practitioners, certified nurse midwives, certified nurse~~  
15 ~~anesthetists, and clinical nurse specialists:~~

16 "a. Practice as a certified ~~registered~~ nurse  
17 practitioner ~~(CRNP)~~ means the performance of nursing skills by  
18 a registered nurse who has demonstrated by certification that  
19 he or she has advanced knowledge and skills in the delivery of  
20 nursing services within a health care system that provides for  
21 consultation, collaborative management, or referral as  
22 indicated by the health status of the client.

23 "b. Practice as a certified nurse midwife ~~(CNM)~~  
24 means the performance of nursing skills by a registered nurse  
25 who has demonstrated by certification that he or she has  
26 advanced knowledge and skills relative to the management of  
27 women's health care focusing on pregnancy, childbirth, the

1 postpartum period, care of the newborn, family planning, and  
2 gynecological needs of women, within a health care system that  
3 provides for consultation, collaborative management, or  
4 referral as indicated by the health status of the client.

5 "c. Practice as a certified registered nurse  
6 anesthetist ~~(CRNA)~~ means the performance of or the assistance  
7 in any act involving the determination, preparation,  
8 administration, or monitoring of any drug used to render an  
9 individual insensible to pain for surgical and other  
10 therapeutic or diagnostic procedures. The nurse anesthetist is  
11 qualified in accordance with Section 27-46-3 and is licensed  
12 by the Board of Nursing and functions under the direction of a  
13 physician licensed to practice medicine, or a dentist, who is  
14 immediately available.

15 "d. Practice of clinical nurse specialist ~~(CNS)~~  
16 nursing means the performance of nursing skills by a  
17 registered nurse who, through study and supervised practice at  
18 the graduate level and as evidenced by certification, has  
19 advanced knowledge and practice skills in a specialized area  
20 of practice, ~~except that a clinical nurse specialist may not~~  
21 ~~do any of the following:~~ . A clinical nurse specialist in  
22 collaborative practice does not have the same functions and  
23 protocols as a certified nurse practitioner or a certified  
24 nurse midwife.

25 ~~"1. Perform delegated medical acts or engage in~~  
26 ~~collaborative practice as described in this article.~~

1           ~~"2. Perform any of the functions of a certified~~  
2 ~~registered nurse practitioner or a certified nurse midwife as~~  
3 ~~described in this article and the regulations adopted under~~  
4 ~~this article, whether or not performed within a collaborative~~  
5 ~~practice relationship.~~

6           ~~3. Prescribe drugs of any type. A clinical nurse~~  
7 ~~specialist may perform nursing services permitted under this~~  
8 ~~subdivision as an independent contractor.~~

9           "(5) COLLABORATION. A formal relationship between  
10 one or more certified ~~registered~~ nurse practitioners,  
11 certified nurse midwives, or clinical nurse specialists and a  
12 physician or physicians under which these nurses may engage in  
13 advanced practice nursing as evidenced by written protocols  
14 approved in accordance with the requirements of this article  
15 or exempted in accordance with requirements of this article.  
16 The term collaboration does not require direct, on-site  
17 supervision of the activities of a certified ~~registered~~ nurse  
18 practitioner, ~~or~~ a certified nurse midwife, or a clinical  
19 nurse specialist by the collaborating physician. The term does  
20 require such professional oversight and direction as may be  
21 required by the rules ~~and regulations~~ of the State Board of  
22 Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing.

23           "(6) PHYSICIAN or COLLABORATING PHYSICIAN. A doctor  
24 of medicine or a doctor of osteopathy licensed to practice  
25 medicine in Alabama who agrees in writing to practice in  
26 collaboration with one or more certified ~~registered~~ nurse  
27 practitioner, ~~or~~ certified nurse midwives, or clinical nurse



1 specialists in accordance with the rules ~~and regulations~~  
2 adopted by the State Board of Medical Examiners and the Board  
3 of Nursing.

4 "(7) JOINT COMMITTEE OF THE STATE BOARD OF MEDICAL  
5 EXAMINERS AND THE BOARD OF NURSING FOR ADVANCED PRACTICE  
6 NURSES. The Joint Committee of the State Board of Medical  
7 Examiners and the Board of Nursing for Advanced Practice  
8 Nurses shall mean and shall be a committee composed of all of  
9 the following:

10 "a. Two physicians licensed to practice medicine in  
11 the State of Alabama.

12 "b. One registered nurse licensed to practice  
13 professional nursing in the State of Alabama.

14 "c. One licensed physician engaged in a  
15 collaborative practice with a certified ~~registered~~ nurse  
16 practitioner or a certified nurse midwife in the State of  
17 Alabama.

18 "d. One certified ~~registered~~ nurse practitioner  
19 engaged in advanced practice with a physician in the State of  
20 Alabama.

21 "e. One certified nurse midwife engaged in advanced  
22 practice with a physician in the State of Alabama.

23 "(8) LEGEND DRUG. Any drug, medicine, chemical, or  
24 poison bearing on the label the words, "Caution, Federal Law  
25 prohibits dispensing without prescription" or similar words  
26 indicating that such drug, medicine, chemical, or poison may  
27 be sold or dispensed only upon the prescription of a licensed

1 practitioner, except that the term legend drug shall not  
2 include any drug, substance, or compound which is listed in  
3 Schedules I through V of the Alabama Uniform Controlled  
4 Substances Act.

5 "(9) PRESCRIBE or PRESCRIBING. The act of issuing a  
6 written prescription for a legend drug.

7 "(10) PRESCRIPTION. An order for a legend drug which  
8 is written and signed by a practitioner authorized by law to  
9 prescribe and administer such drugs and which is intended to  
10 be filled, compounded, or dispensed by a pharmacist.

11 "(11) PROTOCOL. A document approved in accordance  
12 with Section 34-21-87 establishing the permissible functions  
13 and activities to be performed by certified ~~registered~~ nurse  
14 practitioners, and certified nurse midwives, and clinical  
15 nurse specialists and signed by collaborating physicians and  
16 any ~~nurse practitioners or nurse midwives~~ advanced practice  
17 registered nurse practicing with those physicians.

18 "§34-21-83.

19 "The State Board of Medical Examiners shall  
20 establish the qualifications for physicians who are engaged in  
21 collaborative practice with certified ~~registered~~ nurse  
22 practitioners, and certified nurse midwives, and clinical  
23 nurse specialists. The board may adopt rules ~~and regulations~~  
24 to accomplish the purposes of this section.

25 "§34-21-84.

26 "(a) The Board of Nursing shall be the sole state  
27 authority designated to establish the qualifications necessary

1 for a registered nurse to be certified to engage in advanced  
2 practice nursing. The Board of Nursing shall recognize the  
3 educational qualifications and training of advanced practice  
4 registered nurses by the issuance of a certification of  
5 qualification to engage in advanced practice nursing. To be  
6 eligible for certification, an applicant shall be currently  
7 licensed as a registered nurse in Alabama and shall meet the  
8 requirements for certification as an advanced practice  
9 registered nurse as defined in the rules ~~and regulations~~  
10 established by the Board of Nursing.

11 "(b) Pursuant to subsection (a), the Board of  
12 Nursing may adopt rules ~~and regulations~~ establishing the  
13 procedures for individuals to be certified to engage in  
14 advanced practice nursing, as well as grounds for denial or  
15 termination of certification or both, and the fees to be paid  
16 to the Board of Nursing in connection with an application for  
17 certification.

18 "(c) The Board of Nursing, by rule, shall set  
19 standards for the establishment and outcomes of advanced  
20 practice registered nurse education programs, including  
21 clinical learning experiences, and identify the process for  
22 determining how education programs comply with these  
23 standards. The Board of Nursing shall approve education  
24 programs that meet the requirements of this article and the  
25 rules of the Board of Nursing.

26 "§34-21-85.

1           "The joint committee shall be the state authority  
2 designated to recommend rules ~~and regulations~~ to the State  
3 Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing for the  
4 purpose of regulating the collaborative practice of physicians  
5 and ~~certified registered nurse practitioners and certified~~  
6 ~~nurse midwives~~ advanced practice registered nurses in  
7 collaborative practice. No person may practice as a ~~certified~~  
8 ~~registered nurse practitioner or a certified nurse midwife~~ an  
9 advanced practice registered nurse in collaborative practice  
10 in this state unless that person possesses a certificate of  
11 qualification issued by the Board of Nursing and practices  
12 under written protocols approved by the State Board of Medical  
13 Examiners and the Board of Nursing and signed by a qualified  
14 collaborating physician or physicians and ~~certified registered~~  
15 ~~nurse practitioner or certified nurse midwife~~ the advanced  
16 practice registered nurse or is exempt from the requirement of  
17 a written protocol according to rules promulgated by the State  
18 Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing. The joint  
19 committee shall recommend to the State Board of Medical  
20 Examiners and the Board of Nursing rules ~~and regulations~~  
21 designed to govern the collaborative relationship between  
22 physicians and ~~certified registered nurse practitioners and~~  
23 ~~certified nurse midwives~~ advanced practice registered nurses  
24 certified by the Board of Nursing to engage in these areas of  
25 advanced practice nursing. ~~These rules and regulations shall~~  
26 ~~be finally adopted by July 1, 1996.~~ These rules and  
27 ~~regulations~~ and any and all additions, deletions, corrections,

1 or changes thereto shall be considered rules ~~and regulations~~  
2 requiring publication under the Alabama Administrative  
3 Procedure Act; however, the following shall not be considered  
4 rules ~~or regulations~~ under the Administrative Procedure Act:

5 "(1) Protocols for use by certified ~~registered~~ nurse  
6 practitioners, ~~and~~ certified nurse midwives, and clinical  
7 nurse specialists certified to engage in these ~~two~~ three areas  
8 of advanced practice nursing in collaboration with a  
9 physician; and

10 "(2) The formulary of legend drugs that may be  
11 prescribed by certified ~~registered~~ nurse practitioners, ~~and~~  
12 certified nurse midwives, and clinical nurse specialists  
13 authorized to do so.

14 "§34-21-86.

15 "(a) ~~Certified registered nurse practitioners and~~  
16 ~~certified nurse midwives,~~ Advanced practice registered nurses  
17 engaged in collaborative practice with physicians practicing  
18 under protocols approved in the manner prescribed by this  
19 article may prescribe legend drugs to their patients, subject  
20 to both of the following conditions:

21 "(1) The drug type, dosage, quantity prescribed, and  
22 number of refills shall be authorized in an approved protocol  
23 signed by the collaborating physician, ~~and.~~

24 "(2) The drug shall be on the formulary recommended  
25 by the joint committee and adopted by the State Board of  
26 Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing.

1           "~~(b) A certified registered nurse practitioner or a~~  
2 ~~certified nurse midwife~~ An advanced practice registered nurse  
3 in collaborative practice may not initiate a call-in  
4 prescription in the name of a collaborating physician for any  
5 drug, whether legend or controlled substance, ~~which~~ that the  
6 ~~nurse practitioner or certified nurse midwife~~ advanced  
7 practice registered nurse is not authorized to prescribe under  
8 the protocol signed by the collaborating physician and  
9 ~~certified registered nurse practitioner or certified nurse~~  
10 ~~midwife~~ advanced practice registered nurse and approved under  
11 this section unless the drug is specifically ordered for the  
12 patient by the physician, either in writing or by a verbal  
13 order which has been reduced to writing, and which has been  
14 signed by the physician within a time specified in the rules  
15 ~~and regulations~~ approved by the State Board of Medical  
16 Examiners and the Board of Nursing.

17           "(c) Registered nurses and licensed practical nurses  
18 are authorized to administer any legend drug that has been  
19 lawfully ordered or prescribed by an authorized practitioner  
20 including ~~certified registered nurse practitioners, certified~~  
21 ~~nurse midwives,~~ advanced practice registered nurses and/or  
22 assistants to physicians.

23           "§34-21-87.

24           "Notwithstanding any other provisions of this  
25 article, the joint committee shall recommend model practice  
26 protocols to be used by ~~certified registered nurse~~  
27 ~~practitioners and certified nurse midwives~~ advanced practice

1 registered nurses in collaborative practice and a formulary of  
2 legend drugs that may be prescribed by these advanced practice  
3 registered nurses, subject to approval by both the State Board  
4 of Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing. The joint  
5 committee shall also recommend rules ~~and regulations~~ to  
6 establish the ratio of physicians to ~~certified registered~~  
7 ~~nurse practitioners and certified nurse midwives~~ advanced  
8 practice registered nurses; provided, however, that the rules  
9 ~~and regulations~~ shall not limit the ratio to less than two  
10 ~~nurse practitioners or midwives~~ advanced practice registered  
11 nurses to one physician ~~or one certified registered nurse~~  
12 ~~practitioner and one certified nurse midwife to one physician~~  
13 and shall provide for exceptions. The joint committee shall  
14 also recommend rules ~~and regulations~~ that establish the manner  
15 in which a collaborating physician may designate a covering  
16 physician when temporarily unavailable as the collaborating  
17 physician.

18 "§34-21-88.

19 "The following acts shall constitute grounds for the  
20 termination by the Board of Nursing of ~~a certified registered~~  
21 ~~nurse practitioner's or a certified nurse midwife's~~ an  
22 advanced practice registered nurse's certificate of  
23 qualification to engage in these areas of advanced practice  
24 nursing and for the termination of the approval of the State  
25 Board of Medical Examiners of the collaborating practice of a  
26 physician and ~~certified registered nurse practitioner or a~~

1 ~~certified nurse midwife~~ advanced practice registered nurse, or  
2 both:

3 "(1) Prescribing in violation of this article or the  
4 rules ~~and regulations~~ of the State Board of Medical Examiners  
5 or the Board of Nursing.

6 "(2) ~~For a certified registered nurse practitioner~~  
7 ~~or a certified nurse midwife to engage in any act or render~~  
8 An advanced practice registered nurse engaging in any act or  
9 rendering any services not authorized in his or her protocol  
10 or ~~for a physician to require or to knowingly permit or~~  
11 ~~condone~~ requiring or knowingly permitting or condoning such an  
12 act.

13 "(3) Failure on the part of ~~a certified registered~~  
14 ~~nurse practitioner or a certified nurse midwife~~ an advanced  
15 practice registered nurse to maintain current licensure with  
16 the Board of Nursing or failure of a physician to maintain  
17 current licensure with the Medical Licensure Commission.

18 "(4) The commission of any act by ~~a certified~~  
19 ~~registered nurse practitioner or a certified nurse midwife~~  
20 ~~which~~ an advanced practice registered nurse that would  
21 constitute a violation of Section 34-21-25(b) or any act by a  
22 physician ~~which~~ that would constitute a violation of Section  
23 34-24-360.

24 "§34-21-89.

25 "The Board of Nursing may initiate disciplinary  
26 actions against ~~a certified registered nurse practitioner or a~~  
27 ~~certified nurse midwife~~ an advanced practice registered nurse



1 for violations of Section 34-21-86. The State Board of Medical  
2 Examiners may initiate disciplinary actions against a  
3 physician for violation of Section 34-21-86. Before either  
4 board takes such disciplinary action, it shall give the  
5 licensee against whom the action is contemplated a notice of  
6 the proposed action and an opportunity for a hearing before  
7 the respective board. All hearings shall be governed by the  
8 Alabama Administrative Procedure Act.

9 "§34-21-90.

10 "No person shall engage in practice as a ~~certified~~  
11 ~~registered nurse practitioner or certified nurse midwife~~ an  
12 advanced practice registered nurse in collaborative practice  
13 or in any of the acts or functions described in this article  
14 and the ~~regulations~~ rules adopted under this article in this  
15 state unless that person is certified by the Board of Nursing  
16 as an advanced practice registered nurse in a category of  
17 certified ~~registered~~ nurse practitioner, ~~or~~ certified nurse  
18 midwife, or clinical nurse specialist and is practicing in  
19 collaboration with a physician following protocols which have  
20 been approved in accordance with this article or has been  
21 exempted from the requirement of practicing in collaboration  
22 with a physician following protocols as provided in Section  
23 34-21-85.

24 "§34-21-91.

25 "Both the State Board of Medical Examiners and the  
26 Board of Nursing, and in addition to the powers and duties  
27 otherwise expressed in this article, may commence and maintain

1 in their own names in any circuit court having jurisdiction of  
2 any person within this state who is unlawfully engaging in  
3 advanced practice nursing as a certified ~~registered~~ nurse  
4 practitioner, ~~or~~ a certified nurse midwife, or a clinical  
5 nurse specialist, an action in the nature of quo warranto as  
6 provided for in Section 6-6-590, et seq., to order the person  
7 to cease and desist from continuing to engage in these areas  
8 of advanced practice nursing within the State of Alabama, and  
9 jurisdiction is conferred upon the circuit courts of this  
10 state to hear and determine all such cases. The boards may  
11 commence and maintain such actions without the filing of bond  
12 or security and without the order or direction of a circuit  
13 judge. An injunction shall be issued upon proof that the  
14 person is now engaged in advanced practice nursing as a  
15 certified ~~registered~~ nurse practitioner, ~~or~~ a certified nurse  
16 midwife, or a clinical nurse specialist in violation of this  
17 article without requiring proof of actual damage sustained by  
18 any person. In any case of violation of any injunction issued  
19 under this section, the court or any judge thereof may  
20 summarily try~~7~~ and punish the offender for contempt of court.  
21 Injunctive proceedings as authorized in this section shall be  
22 in addition to, and not in lieu of, all penalties and other  
23 remedies prescribed by law.

24 "§34-21-92.

25 "Until the State Board of Medical Examiners and the  
26 Board of Nursing adopt the rules ~~and regulations~~ necessary to  
27 effectuate the provisions of this article, the State Board of

1 Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing shall waive the  
2 requirements of Sections 34-21-84 and 34-21-85 and shall grant  
3 the appropriate certification to any nurse practitioner, ~~or~~  
4 nurse midwife, or clinical nurse specialist who is currently  
5 certified or is eligible for certification to be a certified  
6 ~~registered~~ nurse practitioner, ~~or~~ certified nurse midwife, or  
7 clinical nurse specialist and will continue to engage in  
8 practice under the existing rules ~~and regulations~~. Until the  
9 State Board of Medical Examiners and the Board of Nursing  
10 adopt the rules ~~and regulations~~ necessary to effectuate the  
11 provisions of this article, the State Board of Medical  
12 Examiners and the Board of Nursing shall waive the  
13 requirements of Sections 34-21-84 and 34-21-85 and shall grant  
14 the appropriate approval to a collaborating physician  
15 submitting a request for approval of a collaborative practice  
16 agreement. ~~Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 15 of~~  
17 ~~Acts 1995, No. 95-263, nurse practitioners and nurse midwives~~  
18 ~~are prohibited from prescribing until final rules and~~  
19 ~~regulations are adopted by the State Board of Medical~~  
20 ~~Examiners and the Board of Nursing in accordance with Section~~  
21 ~~34-21-87."~~

22 Section 2. Section 34-21-90.1 is added to the Code  
23 of Alabama, 1975, to read as follows:

24 §34-21-90.1.

25 (a) The abbreviation for the advanced practice  
26 registered nurse designation of a certified registered nurse  
27 anesthetist, certified nurse practitioner, certified nurse

1 midwife, or clinical nurse specialist is APRN, followed by  
2 CRNA, CNP, CNM, or CNS, respectively.

3 (b) It shall be unlawful for an individual other  
4 than an advanced practice registered nurse certified by the  
5 Board of Nursing under this article to use the title of  
6 advanced practice registered nurse or certified registered  
7 nurse anesthetist, certified nurse practitioner, certified  
8 nurse midwife, or clinical nurse specialist, or to use the  
9 abbreviations APRN, CRNA, CNP, CNM, or CNS. An individual  
10 violating this section shall be guilty of a Class C  
11 misdemeanor.

12 Section 3. This act shall become effective on the  
13 first day of the third month following its passage and  
14 approval by the Governor, or its otherwise becoming law.