



Arizona Regulatory Board of Physician Assistants

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DRAFT MINUTES FOR SPECIAL TELECONFERENCE Held on Wednesday, January 10, 2018 1740 W. Adams St., Board Room 4700 • Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Board Members

Myles A. Whitfield, P.A.-C, Chair
Randy D. Danielsen, PhD, P.A., D.F.A.A.P.A. Vice Chair
Carole A. Crevier
Thomas E. Kelly, M.D., F.A.C.E.P.
Sheldon G. Liechty, P.A.-C
John J. Shaff, PA-C, DFAAPA
Jacqueline J. Spiegel, M.S., P.A.-C, D.F.A.A.P.A.
Patrick J. Van Zanen

Wednesday, January 10, 2018

A. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Whitfield called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

B. ROLL CALL

The following Board members participated telephonically: Chairman Whitfield, Dr. Danielsen, Ms. Crevier, Dr. Kelly, PA Liechty, PA Shaff, PA Spiegel and Mr. Van Zanen.

ALSO PRESENT

Carrie Smith, AAG; Patricia E. McSorley, Executive Director; Kristina Fredericksen, Deputy Director; Mary Bober, Board Operations Manager; and Michelle Robles, Board Coordinator

C. CALL TO THE PUBLIC

No individuals addressed the Board during the Public portion of the meeting.

D. REVIEW, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING PROPOSED LEGISLATION TO AMEND A.R.S. § 32-2532(D) AS REQUESTED BY THE ARIZONA STATE ASSOCIATION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS.

Mr. Keenan, President, Arizona State Association of Physician Assistants (ASAPA), requested that the Board allow Agency staff to work with Mr. Goodman, ASAPA lobbyist to approve language to amend A.R.S. § 32-2532(D). The proposed new statutory language will allow physician assistants to prescribe controlled substances other than opioids for a period up to ninety days.

Board members discussed the merits of ASAPA's proposal. Dr. Danielsen noted that the Joint Legislation Rule Committee (JLRC) has already reviewed proposed legislation to amend A.R.S. § 32-2532(D) and that the recommendations have been presented as a package this legislative session.

Ms. Smith clarified the language of A.R.S. § 32-2532(C) for Board members.

Mr. Keenan commented that the purpose of the proposed change is to create parity between physician assistants, nurse practitioners and physicians.

MOTION: Dr. Danielson moved to direct staff to propose new statutory language for A.R.S. § 32-2532(C) to allow physician assistants to prescribe all controlled substances up to ninety days.

SECOND: Ms. Crevier.

PA Spiegel expressed concern that Board support of this change to section C may affect the chances that the Board's other proposed changes to the PA Practice Act will be passed through the Legislature, in light of the current opioid epidemic. Board members opined establishing parity is not a negative and that this is the time to make a change. Mr. Goodman, ASAPA's lobbyist, agreed that the purpose of the proposed legislation would be to change physician assistant's prescribing requirements to match their professional colleagues. Mr. Goodman noted that the proposal would only go forward if the change is supported by the Governor's office and that it would not be attached to the proposed legislative package already in place by the Board.

VOTE: 8-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

F. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Dr. Daniels moved to adjourn the meeting.

SECOND: Dr. Kelly.

VOTE: 8-yay, 0-nay, 0-abstain, 0-recuse, 0-absent.

MOTION PASSED.

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.



Patricia E. McSorley, Executive Director