A bill to be entitled

An act relating to medical practice; amending s. 458.348, F.S.; deleting certain requirements for a physician's supervision of certain advanced registered nurse practitioners and physician assistants at medical offices other than the physician's primary practice location; deleting requirements for a physician's disclosure of certain information to, and for the initial examination of, a patient upon referral by another practitioner; deleting a provision specifying that certain provisions are self-executing and do not require or authorize rulemaking; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsections (4) through (6) of section 458.348, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

458.348 Formal supervisory relationships, standing orders, and established protocols; notice; standards.—

A physician who supervises an advanced registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant at a medical office other than the physician's primary practice location, where the advanced registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant is not under the onsite supervision of a supervising physician, must comply with the standards set forth in this subsection. For the purpose of this subsection, a physician's "primary practice location" means the address reflected on the physician's profile

Page 1 of 5

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

published pursuant to s. 456.041.

(a) A physician who is engaged in providing primary health care services may not supervise more than four offices in addition to the physician's primary practice location. For the purpose of this subsection, "primary health care" means health care services that are commonly provided to patients without referral from another practitioner, including obstetrical and gynecological services, and excludes practices providing primarily dermatologic and skin care services, which include aesthetic skin care services.

(b) A physician who is engaged in providing specialty health care services may not supervise more than two offices in addition to the physician's primary practice location. For the purpose of this subsection, "specialty health care" means health care services that are commonly provided to patients with a referral from another practitioner and excludes practices providing primarily dermatologic and skin care services, which include aesthetic skin care services.

(c) A physician who supervises an advanced registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant at a medical office other than the physician's primary practice location, where the advanced registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant is not under the onsite supervision of a supervising physician and the services offered at the office are primarily dermatologic or skin care services, which include aesthetic skin care services other than plastic surgery, must comply with the standards listed in subparagraphs 1.-4. Notwithstanding s.

458.347(4)(e)7., a physician supervising a physician assistant

<del>pursuant to this paragraph</del> may not be required to review and cosign charts or medical records prepared by such physician assistant.

- 1. The physician shall submit to the board the addresses of all offices where he or she is supervising an advanced registered nurse practitioner or a physician's assistant which are not the physician's primary practice location.
- 2. The physician must be board certified or board eligible in dermatology or plastic surgery as recognized by the board pursuant to s. 458.3312.
- 3. All such offices that are not the physician's primary place of practice must be within 25 miles of the physician's primary place of practice or in a county that is contiguous to the county of the physician's primary place of practice.

  However, the distance between any of the offices may not exceed 75 miles.
- 4. The physician may supervise only one office other than the physician's primary place of practice except that until July 1, 2011, the physician may supervise up to two medical offices other than the physician's primary place of practice if the addresses of the offices are submitted to the board before July 1, 2006. Effective July 1, 2011, the physician may supervise only one office other than the physician's primary place of practice, regardless of when the addresses of the offices were submitted to the board.
- (d) A physician who supervises an office in addition to the physician's primary practice location must conspicuously post in each of the physician's offices a current schedule of

Page 3 of 5

the regular hours when the physician is present in that office and the hours when the office is open while the physician is not present.

85

86

87

88 89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

97

98

99

100

101

102

103

104

105

106

107

108

109

110

111

112

(e) This subsection does not apply to health care services provided in facilities licensed under chapter 395 or in conjunction with a college of medicine, a college of nursing, accredited graduate medical program, or a nursing education program; not-for-profit, family-planning clinics that are not licensed pursuant to chapter 390; rural and federally qualified health centers; health care services provided in a nursing home licensed under part II of chapter 400, an assisted living facility licensed under part I of chapter 429, a continuing care facility licensed under chapter 651, or a retirement community consisting of independent living units and a licensed nursing home or assisted living facility; anesthesia services provided in accordance with law; health care services provided in a designated rural health clinic; health care services provided to persons enrolled in a program designed to maintain elderly persons and persons with disabilities in a home or communitybased setting; university primary care student health centers; school health clinics; or health care services provided in federal, state, or local government facilities. Subsection (3) and this subsection do not apply to offices at which the exclusive service being performed is laser hair removal by an advanced registered nurse practitioner or physician assistant.

(5) REQUIREMENTS FOR NOTICE AND REVIEW.—Upon initial referral of a patient by another practitioner, the physician receiving the referral must ensure that the patient is informed

Page 4 of 5

of the type of license held by the physician and the type of license held by any other practitioner who will be providing services to the patient. When scheduling the initial examination or consultation following such referral, the patient may decide to see the physician or any other licensed practitioner supervised by the physician and, before the initial examination or consultation, shall sign a form indicating the patient's choice of practitioner. The supervising physician must review the medical record of the initial examination or consultation and ensure that a written report of the initial examination or consultation is furnished to the referring practitioner within 10 business days following the completion of the initial examination or consultation.

(6) LIMITATION ON RULEMAKING.—This section is self-executing and does not require or provide authority for additional rulemaking.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.