A bill to be entitled

CS/HB 625

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An act relating to physician assistants; amending ss. 458.347 and 459.022, F.S.; authorizing a supervisory physician to delegate to a licensed physician assistant the authority to order medications for the supervisory physician's patient during the patient's care in a facility licensed under ch. 395, F.S.; providing that an order is not a prescription; authorizing a licensed physician assistant to order medication under the direction of the supervisory physician; providing an effective date. Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Paragraph (e) of subsection (4) of section 458.347, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (g) is added to that subsection, to read:

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458.347 Physician assistants.-

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(4) PERFORMANCE OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS.-

(e) A supervisory physician may delegate to a fully licensed physician assistant the authority to prescribe or dispense any medication used in the supervisory physician's practice unless such medication is listed on the formulary created pursuant to paragraph (f). A fully licensed physician assistant may only prescribe or dispense such medication under the following circumstances:

A physician assistant must clearly identify to the
 patient that he or she is a physician assistant. Furthermore,

### Page 1 of 6

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hb0625-01-c1

29 the physician assistant must inform the patient that the patient 30 has the right to see the physician prior to any prescription 31 being prescribed or dispensed by the physician assistant.

2. The supervisory physician must notify the department of his or her intent to delegate, on a department-approved form, before delegating such authority and notify the department of any change in prescriptive privileges of the physician assistant. Authority to dispense may be delegated only by a supervising physician who is registered as a dispensing practitioner in compliance with s. 465.0276.

39 3. The physician assistant must file with the department a 40 signed affidavit that he or she has completed a minimum of 10 41 continuing medical education hours in the specialty practice in 42 which the physician assistant has prescriptive privileges with 43 each licensure renewal application.

44 4. The department may issue a prescriber number to the
45 physician assistant granting authority for the prescribing of
46 medicinal drugs authorized within this paragraph upon completion
47 of the foregoing requirements. The physician assistant shall not
48 be required to independently register pursuant to s. 465.0276.

The prescription must be written in a form that 49 5. 50 complies with chapter 499 and must contain, in addition to the 51 supervisory physician's name, address, and telephone number, the 52 physician assistant's prescriber number. Unless it is a drug or 53 drug sample dispensed by the physician assistant, the 54 prescription must be filled in a pharmacy permitted under 55 chapter 465 and must be dispensed in that pharmacy by a 56 pharmacist licensed under chapter 465. The appearance of the

#### Page 2 of 6

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57 prescriber number creates a presumption that the physician 58 assistant is authorized to prescribe the medicinal drug and the 59 prescription is valid. 60 The physician assistant must note the prescription or 6. 61 dispensing of medication in the appropriate medical record. 62 7. This paragraph does not prohibit a supervisory 63 physician from delegating to a physician assistant the authority 64 to order medication for a hospitalized patient of the 65 supervisory physician. 66 67 This paragraph does not apply to facilities licensed pursuant 68 chapter 395. 69 (g) A supervisory physician may delegate to a licensed 70 physician assistant the authority to order medications for the 71 supervisory physician's patient during the patient's care in a 72 facility licensed under chapter 395, notwithstanding any 73 provision in chapter 465 or chapter 893 that may prohibit such 74 delegation. For the purpose of this paragraph, an order is not 75 considered a prescription. A licensed physician assistant 76 working in a facility that is licensed under chapter 395 may 77 order any medication under the direction of the supervisory 78 physician. 79 Section 2. Paragraph (e) of subsection (4) of section 80 459.022, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraph (f) is 81 added to that subsection, to read: 82 459.022 Physician assistants.-(4) PERFORMANCE OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS.-83 84 (e) A supervisory physician may delegate to a fully

# Page 3 of 6

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85 licensed physician assistant the authority to prescribe or 86 dispense any medication used in the supervisory physician's 87 practice unless such medication is listed on the formulary 88 created pursuant to s. 458.347. A fully licensed physician 89 assistant may only prescribe or dispense such medication under 90 the following circumstances:

91 1. A physician assistant must clearly identify to the 92 patient that she or he is a physician assistant. Furthermore, 93 the physician assistant must inform the patient that the patient 94 has the right to see the physician prior to any prescription 95 being prescribed or dispensed by the physician assistant.

96 2. The supervisory physician must notify the department of 97 her or his intent to delegate, on a department-approved form, 98 before delegating such authority and notify the department of 99 any change in prescriptive privileges of the physician 100 assistant. Authority to dispense may be delegated only by a 101 supervisory physician who is registered as a dispensing 102 practitioner in compliance with s. 465.0276.

3. The physician assistant must file with the department a signed affidavit that she or he has completed a minimum of 10 continuing medical education hours in the specialty practice in which the physician assistant has prescriptive privileges with each licensure renewal application.

4. The department may issue a prescriber number to the physician assistant granting authority for the prescribing of medicinal drugs authorized within this paragraph upon completion of the foregoing requirements. The physician assistant shall not be required to independently register pursuant to s. 465.0276.

# Page 4 of 6

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hb0625-01-c1

113 5. The prescription must be written in a form that 114 complies with chapter 499 and must contain, in addition to the supervisory physician's name, address, and telephone number, the 115 116 physician assistant's prescriber number. Unless it is a drug or 117 drug sample dispensed by the physician assistant, the 118 prescription must be filled in a pharmacy permitted under chapter 465, and must be dispensed in that pharmacy by a 119 120 pharmacist licensed under chapter 465. The appearance of the 121 prescriber number creates a presumption that the physician 122 assistant is authorized to prescribe the medicinal drug and the 123 prescription is valid. 124 6. The physician assistant must note the prescription or 125 dispensing of medication in the appropriate medical record. 7. This paragraph does not prohibit a supervisory 126 127 physician from delegating to a physician assistant the authority to order medication for a hospitalized patient of the 128 129 supervisory physician. 130 This paragraph does not apply to facilities licensed pursuant to 131 chapter 395. 132 133 (f) A supervisory physician may delegate to a licensed 134 physician assistant the authority to order medications for the 135 supervisory physician's patient during the patient's care in a 136 facility licensed under chapter 395, notwithstanding any 137 provision in chapter 465 or chapter 893 that may prohibit such 138 delegation. For the purpose of this paragraph, an order is not 139 considered a prescription. A licensed physician assistant 140 working in a facility that is licensed under chapter 395 may

# Page 5 of 6

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2013

141	order any medication under the direction of the supervisory
142	physician.
143	Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.

Page 6 of 6

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