



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	.	House
Comm: WD	.	
02/12/2026	.	
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The Appropriations Committee on Health and Human Services (Sharief) recommended the following:

1                   **Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

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3                   Delete everything after the enacting clause  
4 and insert:

5                   Section 1. Subsections (8) and (10) of section 464.015,  
6 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

7                   464.015 Titles and abbreviations; restrictions; penalty.—

8                   (8) Only persons who hold valid licenses to practice as  
9 advanced practice registered nurses in this state may use the  
10 title "Advanced Practice Registered Nurse" and the abbreviation



11 "A.P.R.N."

12       (a) A licensed advanced practice registered nurse who also  
13 holds a Doctor of Philosophy degree or a Doctor of Nursing  
14 Practice degree may use the title "Doctor of Philosophy" and the  
15 abbreviation "Ph.D.," or the title "Doctor of Nursing Practice"  
16 and the abbreviation "D.N.P.," respectively, in a manner  
17 consistent with the doctoral degree such person holds.

18       (b) A person authorized under paragraph (a) to use a title  
19 or abbreviation associated with a doctoral degree may not hold  
20 himself or herself out to a patient, a prospective patient, or  
21 the public at large as a doctor without using such title or  
22 abbreviation authorized under paragraph (a) or clearly  
23 specifying his or her licensed profession.

24       (10) A violation of this section is a misdemeanor of the  
25 first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s.  
26 775.083, except for violations of paragraphs (8)(a) or (b).  
27 Violations of paragraphs (8)(a) or (b) constitute grounds for  
28 disciplinary action under s. 464.018(1)(o).

29       Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.

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31 ===== T I T L E   A M E N D M E N T =====

32 And the title is amended as follows:

33       Delete everything before the enacting clause  
34 and insert:

35                   A bill to be entitled  
36                   An act relating to the use of professional nursing  
37                   titles; amending s. 464.015, F.S.; providing that  
38                   licensed advanced practice registered nurses who hold  
39                   specified degrees may use titles and abbreviations



40        associated with those degrees in a specified manner;  
41        prohibiting such persons from holding themselves out  
42        to a patient, a prospective patient, or the public at  
43        large as a doctor under certain circumstances;  
44        providing for disciplinary action; providing an  
45        effective date.