CONSENT CALENDAR

April 19, 2023

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

REPORT OF COMMITTEE

The Committee on Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs to which was referred SB 83,

AN ACT relative to the signature authority of an advanced practice registered nurse or a certified midwife. Having considered the same, report the same with the recommendation that the bill OUGHT TO PASS.

Rep. Leah Cushman

FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

COMMITTEE REPORT

Committee:	**Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs**
Bill Number:	**SB 83**
Title:	**relative to the signature authority of an advanced practice registered nurse or a certified midwife.**
Date:	**April 19, 2023**
Consent Calendar:	**CONSENT**
Recommendation:	**OUGHT TO PASS**

STATEMENT OF INTENT

This bill allows an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) or a certified nurse midwife (CNM), acting within the scope of their practice, to certify a document in the place of a physician. In New Hampshire, APRNs and CNMs have diagnostic, prescriptive, and ordering authority equal to that of physicians, and currently are applying their signatures on forms that call for that of a physician already. This bill brings statute in line with reality and was unanimously supported by the committee.

Vote 19-0.

Rep. Leah Cushman
FOR THE COMMITTEE

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

CONSENT CALENDAR

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

SB 83, relative to the signature authority of an advanced practice registered nurse or a certified midwife. **OUGHT TO PASS.**

Rep. Leah Cushman for Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs. This bill allows an advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) or a certified nurse midwife (CNM), acting within the scope of their practice, to certify a document in the place of a physician. In New Hampshire, APRNs and CNMs have diagnostic, prescriptive, and ordering authority equal to that of physicians, and currently are applying their signatures on forms that call for that of a physician already. This bill brings statute in line with reality and was unanimously supported by the committee. **Vote 19-0.**

Original: House Clerk
Cc: Committee Bill File

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

EXECUTIVE SESSION on SB 83

BILL TITLE: relative to the signature authority of an advanced practice registered nurse or a certified midwife.

DATE: April 19, 2023

LOB ROOM: 201-203

MOTIONS: OUGHT TO PASS

Moved by Rep. Cushman Seconded by Rep. Schapiro Vote: 19-0

CONSENT CALENDAR: YES

Statement of Intent: Refer to Committee Report

Respectfully submitted,

Rep Bill King, Clerk

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HHSEA

EXECUTIVE SESSION on Bill # SB 83

BILL TITLE: ...

DATE: 4/19/23

LOB ROOM: 201-203

MOTION: (Please check one box)

☑ OTP ☐ ITL ☐ Retain (1st year) ☐ Adoption of Amendment # _____ *(if offered)*

☐ Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. CUSHMAN Seconded by Rep. SCHAPIRO Vote: 19-0

MOTION: (Please check one box)

☐ OTP ☐ OTP/A ☐ ITL ☐ Retain (1st year) ☐ Adoption of Amendment # _____ *(if offered)*

☐ Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

MOTION: (Please check one box)

☐ OTP ☐ OTP/A ☐ ITL ☐ Retain (1st year) ☐ Adoption of Amendment # _____ *(if offered)*

☐ Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

MOTION: (Please check one box)

☐ OTP ☐ OTP/A ☐ ITL ☐ Retain (1st year) ☐ Adoption of Amendment # _____ *(if offered)*

☐ Interim Study (2nd year)

Moved by Rep. _____ Seconded by Rep. _____ Vote: _____

☐ **WITHOUT RECOMMENDATION**

CONSENT CALENDAR: ✓ **YES** ____ **NO**

Minority Report? _____ Yes _____ No If yes, author, Rep: _____ Motion _____

Respectfully submitted: _____

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
OFFICE OF THE HOUSE CLERK

1/6/2023 12:36:33 PM
Roll Call Committee Registers Report

2023 SESSION

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs

Bill #: SB 83 Motion: OTP AM #: _____ Exec Session Date: 4/19/23

Members	YEAS	Nays	NV
MacDonald, Wayne D. Chairman	19		
Layon, Erica J. Vice Chairman	1		
Cushman, Leah P.	2		
King, Bill C. Clerk	3		
Kofalt, Jim	4		
McLean, Mark	5		
King, Seth	6		
Mazur, Lisa R	7		
Nagel, David J	8		
Polozov, Yury	9		
Weber, Lucy M.	10		
MacKay, James R.			1
Freitas, Mary C.	11		
Cannon, Gerri D.	12		
Nutter-Upham, Frances E.	13		
Schapiro, Joe	14		
Merchant, Gary	15		
~~Murphy, James Michael~~ ELBERGER, SUSAN	16		
Palmer, William S	17		
~~Tellez, Trinidad~~ PREECE, DAVID	18		
TOTAL VOTE:	19	0	1

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH, HUMAN SERVICES AND ELDERLY AFFAIRS

PUBLIC HEARING ON SB 83

BILL TITLE: **relative to the signature authority of an advanced practice registered nurse or a certified midwife.**

DATE: **March 29, 2023**

LOB ROOM: **201-203** **Time Public Hearing Called to Order:** **11:31 AM**

Time Adjourned: **11:46 AM**

Committee Members: Reps. W. MacDonald, B. King, Mazur, Nagel, Polozov, Weber, MacKay, Cannon, Nutter-Upham, Schapiro, Merchant and Palmer

Bill Sponsors:

Sen. Prentiss	**Sen. Altschiller**	**Sen. Perkins Kwoka**
Sen. Watters	**Sen. Carson**	**Sen. Fenton**
Sen. Whitley	**Sen. Chandley**	**Sen. Ricciardi**

TESTIMONY

* Use asterisk if written testimony and/or amendments are submitted.

Senator Sue Prentiss – District 5 – Prime sponsor

- Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) – Remove barriers
- Make system more efficient

Q: Rep. Nagel – Why isn't this in place now?
A: We have support NH Medical Society
Q: Rep. Nutter-Upham – Can they reject without the form?
A: No
Q: Rep. Weber – Are we conforming what is already in practice?
A: Yes

***Nancy Wilson – NH Nurse Practitioner Association – Supports**

Q: Rep. Schapiro – Is this necessary because forms are in statute?
A: Yes
Q: Rep. Palmer – Does this cover durable equipment forms?
A: No – those fall under Federal

Respectfully submitted,

Rep. Bill King, Clerk

House Remote Testify

Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs Committee Testify List for Bill SB83 on 2023-03-29

Support: 5 Oppose: 1 Neutral: 0 Total to Testify: 0

Export to Excel

Name	City, State Email Address	Title	Representing	Position	Testifying	Non-Germane	Signed Up
Richardson, Daniel	Nashua, NH daniel6_22@comcast.net	A Member of the Public	Myself	Oppose	No	No	3/23/2023 9:13 PM
Watters, David	Dover, NH david.watters@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	3/28/2023 11:08 AM
Perkins Kwoka, Rebecca	Portsmouth, NH rebecca.perkinskwoka@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	3/28/2023 11:17 AM
Paschell, Susan	Bow, NH spaschell@dupontgroup.com	A Lobbyist	NH Nurse Practitioner Association	Support	No	No	3/29/2023 9:15 AM
Fenton (SD 10), Senator Donovan	Keene, NH donovan.fenton@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	3/29/2023 9:21 AM
Altschiller, Senator Debra	SD24, NH kevin.condict@leg.state.nh.us	An Elected Official	Myself	Support	No	No	3/29/2023 12:18 PM

SIGN UP SHEET

To Register Opinion If Not Speaking

Bill #: SB83 Date: 3/29/23

Committee: HHS & EA

**** Please Print All Information ****

Name	Address	Phone	Representing	Pro	Con
Elizabeth Sargent			nh funeral directors association	X	

Daniel Richardson

You forgot to include shamans and witch doctors in this bill.

(2)

NEW HAMPSHIRE NURSE PRACTITIONER ASSOCIATION
Empower NPs And Champion Their Practice

AANP American Association of NURSE PRACTITIONERS

Hon. Wayne MacDonald, Chair
House Health and Human Services Committee
Room 207, Legislative Office Building
Concord NH 03301

March 29, 2023

Via email: HHSEA@leg.state.nh.us

RE: SB 83, relative to the signature authority of an advanced practice registered nurse or a certified midwife.

Dear Chairman MacDonald and members of the Committee:
On behalf of the New Hampshire Nurse Practitioner Association, representing the state's 2500 advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), and as the New Hampshire state liaison with the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, I am writing to ask for your support of SB 83.

As clinicians who diagnose, treat acute and chronic conditions, prescribe medications, and emphasize preventative care, APRNs serve a critical role providing high-quality healthcare to NH residents. Passing SB 83 will address outdated state laws that impede timely patient care. With the ongoing workforce shortages in health care, streamlining administrative processes makes sense and will help provide more access to care.

SB 83 does not expand the scope of practice for APRNs; it will only allow APRNs to sign paperwork that reflects the care they have already provided, and authorize the nurse practitioner who is already treating the patient to also treat the paperwork. Statutes written before APRNs were providing the level of care they provide today have not been updated to include recognition for APRN signatures on many patient care documents. This disconnect between treating the patient and signing the paperwork contributes to costly, unnecessary interruptions in care and delays.

The Legislature has previously updated some key statutes, around parking placards and death certificates, but other statutes and regulations still need to be aligned with current practice. This inconsistency in our laws creates confusion and unnecessary delays for patient care and in some cases, patients are left limited alternatives. They may need to establish a new patient relationship with another health care provider who is recognized to complete these standardized patient care forms, or wait until the APRN can find a provider who will use their clinic notes or take their word to sign forms. NHNPA members across the state have shared these experiences that impact hundreds of patients every month.

New Hampshire is not alone in efforts to put patients over paperwork. Similar reforms have been successfully implemented in 16 other states and the District of Columbia. These states include several of

our neighboring states including Maine, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Vermont. On behalf of the NH nurse practitioners and the thousands of NH residents they care for, I ask your favorable vote on SB 83. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Jillian Belmont, Nurse Practitioner
AANP NH State Liaison
Past President of NHNPA

SB 83 - AS INTRODUCED

2023 SESSION

23-0994
09/04

SENATE BILL ***83***

AN ACT relative to the signature authority of an advanced practice registered nurse or a certified midwife.

SPONSORS: Sen. Prentiss, Dist 5; Sen. Altschiller, Dist 24; Sen. Perkins Kwoka, Dist 21; Sen. Watters, Dist 4; Sen. Carson, Dist 14; Sen. Fenton, Dist 10; Sen. Whitley, Dist 15; Sen. Chandley, Dist 11; Sen. Ricciardi, Dist 9

COMMITTEE: Health and Human Services

ANALYSIS

This bill allows an advanced practice registered nurse or certified midwife, acting within the scope of their practice, to certify a document in the place of a physician.

- -

Explanation: Matter added to current law appears in ***bold italics.***
Matter removed from current law appears [~~in brackets and struckthrough.~~]
Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

SB 83 - AS INTRODUCED

23-0994
09/04

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Three

AN ACT relative to the signature authority of an advanced practice registered nurse or a certified midwife.

Be it Enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened:

1 New Section; Advanced Practice Registered Nurse; Signature Authority; Certified Midwives. Amend RSA 326-B by inserting after section 46 the following new section:

326-B:47 Signature Authority of a Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Certified Midwife. When a provision of law or rule requires a signature, certification, stamp, verification, affidavit, or endorsement by a physician, that requirement may be fulfilled by an advanced practice registered nurse certified pursuant to this chapter, or a certified nurse midwife acting within his or her scope of practice and within the advanced practice registered nurse-patient relationship. This section shall not be construed to expand the scope of practice of an advanced practice registered nurse or a certified nurse midwife.

2 Effective Date. This act shall take effect 60 days after its passage.