

SB 285 - AS INTRODUCED

2025 SESSION

25-1075

09/05

SENATE BILL **285**

AN ACT relative to changing the term "physician assistant" to "physician associate."

SPONSORS: Sen. Rochefort, Dist 1; Sen. Long, Dist 20; Sen. Pearl, Dist 17; Sen. Murphy, Dist 16; Sen. Birdsell, Dist 19; Rep. Schmidt, Straf. 14; Rep. Edwards, Rock. 31; Rep. Layon, Rock. 13

COMMITTEE: Executive Departments and Administration

ANALYSIS

This bill updates the laws to reflect the title change of "physician assistant" to "physician associate" but makes clear that no substantive change to any law is being made by this update.

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Matter which is either (a) all new or (b) repealed and reenacted appears in regular type.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

In the Year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty Five

AN ACT relative to changing the term "physician assistant" to "physician associate."

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

1 1 Title Change; Physician Associate. Amend the following RSAs by replacing "physician
 2 assistant" with "physician associate": 5-C:1, III; 5-C:1, V; 5-C:1, XXIX-a, 5-C:62, I; 5-C:62, II(e); 5-
 3 C:62, III(c); 5-C:62, III(e); 5-C:62, IV(d); the introductory paragraph of 5-C:62, V; 5-C:62, V(a); 5-
 4 C:62, VI; 5-C:63, I; 5-C:63, IV and V; 5-C:63, VIII; 5-C:64, II and III; 5-C:64, IV(a) through (c); 5-C:64,
 5 VI and VII; 5-C:64, XI through XV; 5-C:66, I and II; 5-C:74, I; 5-C:80, III and IV; 5-C:81, II; 5-C:94, II
 6 through IV; 5-C:96, I(b); 126-AA:2, III(d)(1) and (3); 126-A:3, III-a(a); 126-A:89, VIII; the introductory
 7 paragraph of 126-A:101, I; 126-X:1, VII(a)(3) and (4); the introductory paragraph of 135:21-b; 135:21-
 8 b, I; 135-C:2, XII-a; 135-C:36, I(c); 135-C:36, II; 137-J:2, V; 137-J:2, XXI; 137-J:33; 137-L:2, VI and
 9 VII; 141-G:2, I; 141-G:8, VIII; 141-G:10, III(a); 141-G:13, I through III; 141-G:19, II(i); 151:12-c, I;
 10 153-A:11, II; the section heading of 153-A:16; 153-A:16, I and II; 167:83, II(q); 170-E:58; 200:32;
 11 200:40-b, I(a)(3); 200-N:1, III(b); 261:88, I(c); 261:88, III; 261:88, V and VI; 290:1; 290:1-a; 313-A:31,
 12 II; 318:1, XII-a; 318:42, VII(a) and (c); the introductory paragraph of RSA 318:42, VIII; 318:47-m, I;
 13 318:47-m, III; 318:47-m, VII; the introductory paragraph of RSA 318:52-a; 318:52-c, I; 326-E:1, VII;
 14 326-E:1, X; the introductory paragraph of 326-E:8, I; 328-D:1, I; 328-D:1, II-c; 328-D:1, III; 328-D:2, I
 15 through III; the introductory paragraph of 328-D:3, I; 323-D:3-b, I(a) and (b); 328-D:3-b, II(c) and (d);
 16 328-D:3-b, IV; 328-D:3-b, XIII; 328-D:3-b, XVII through XIX; 328-D:10, I(j); 328-D:12; 328-D:13, I and
 17 II; 328-D:14; 328-D:15, I through III; 328-D:16, I and II; 328-D:17, I through III; 329:1-c; 329:1-d, III;
 18 the introductory paragraph of 329:1-g; 329:13-b, I; 329:13-b, IV(a); 328:13-b, VI; 322-I:1, II(b); 332-
 19 L:2, I; the introductory paragraph of 415:18-a, III(a); 415:18-a, IV(b)(9); 415:18-a, V(j); and 464-A:25;
 20 I(a)(2) and (6).

21 2 Title Change; Physician Associates. Amend the following RSAs by replacing "physician
 22 assistants" with "physician associates": 137-J:2, V; 141-F:2, IV-b; 153-A:20, XII; 167:4-d, III(f)(1);
 23 294-A:1, VI; 304-A:2, IX; 310:7, VI; 313-A:25, I; 318:8-a; 318:42, II; 318-B:41, I(a)(1); the chapter
 24 heading for 328-D; 328-D:2-a, I through III; 328-D:3, I(a); 328-D:3-b, I(a); the introductory paragraph
 25 of 328-D:3-b, VII; 328-D:3-b, VIII through XIII; 328-D:3-b, XV through XVII; 328-D:3-b, XIX and XX;
 26 328-D:17, I; 328-D:18; 329:2, I; 329:3; 329:9, XIV; 329:13-b, V(a); 329:21, XIII; 415:18-a, I(a)(9);
 27 415:18-a, III(a)(9); 415-J:3, XII(a); and 516:29-c, VI(a).

28 3 Title Change; Physician Associate's. Amend the following RSAs by replacing "physician
 29 assistant's" with "physician associate's": the introductory paragraph of 5-C:64, IV; 5-C:64, VI; 5-C:64,
 30 XI; 5-C:94, V; the introductory paragraph of 135:21-b; 328-D:1, II-a; 328-D:3-b, I(b); 328-D:3-b, II(a)
 31 and (b); 328-D:3-b, XX; 328-D:15, I; and 329:13-b, VI.

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1 4 Title Change; Physician Associates'. Amend the following RSA by replacing "physician
2 assistants" with "physician associates": 318:14.

3 5 Title Change; Physician Associate. Amend the following RSAs by replacing "physician's
4 assistant" with "physician associate": 106-L:6, VII; 214:20-I; 265-A:5, I; the introductory paragraph of
5 265-A:16; 328-G:9, II(e)(1); 507-C:1, II; 507-E:1, II; 508:18, I; and 623:1, I.

6 6 Title Change; Physician Associates'. Amend the following RSA by replacing "physician's
7 assistants" with "physician associates": the introductory paragraph of 326-D:2, V.

8 7 Title Change; January 1, 2027. Amend the following RSA by replacing "physician assistant"
9 with "physician associate": 328-D:3-b, I.

10 8 Title Change; January 1, 2027. Amend the following RSA by replacing "physician assistants"
11 with "physician associates": 328-D:3-b, I.

12 9 Physician Associate; Rulemaking. Amend RSA 328-D:10, I(m) to read as follows:

13 (m) Continuing medical education ("CME") requirements for those physician ~~assistants~~
14 **associates** that have received their National Commission on Certification of Physician Assistants
15 ("NCCPA") certification, but have chosen not to maintain their certification.

16 10 New Section; Physician Associates; Applicability of Name Change. Amend RSA 328:D by
17 inserting after section 18 the following new section:

18 328-D:19 Effect of Name Change From Physician Assistant to Physician Associate.

19 As of the effective date of this section, the title of "physician assistant" in New Hampshire is
20 changed to "physician associate." This change is not intended to change any rights or privileges of
21 those who have been or continue to hold themselves out to be a "physician assistant" and anywhere
22 in the law that says, "physician associate" shall also mean "physician assistant."

23 11 Effective Date.

24 I. Sections 7 and 8 of this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.

25 II. The remainder of this act shall take effect upon its passage.