



Midwifery Joint Committee
of the
State of North Carolina

April 27, 2020

Amended July 28, 2020

On March 10, 2020, Governor Roy Cooper declared a state of emergency due to the public health emergency posed by novel coronavirus (COVID-19). On April 8, 2020, the Governor issued Executive Order 130 ordering the authority to certain professional health care licensure to meet the goal of providing health care and saving lives in response to the pandemic and to meet the need for additional health care workers to treat patients. Specifically, the Governor ordered the authorization of the waiver or modification of any legal or regulatory constraint for the practice of midwifery.

The Midwifery Joint Committee (“MJC”) regulates the practice of nurse midwives pursuant to Article 10A of the General Statutes. Pursuant to the authority granted to the MJC in response to Executive Order 130 (2020), the MJC hereby waives the following:

- **Nurse Midwife Emergency Extension of Approval to Practice**

§ 90-178.3. Regulation of midwifery.

- (b) A person approved pursuant to this Article may practice midwifery in a hospital or non-hospital setting and shall practice under the supervision of a physician licensed to practice medicine who is actively engaged in the practice of obstetrics. A registered nurse approved pursuant to this Article is authorized to write prescriptions for drugs in accordance with the same conditions applicable to a nurse practitioner under G.S. 90-18.2(b).

Waive the provisions in 90-178.3 (b) requiring physician supervision to allow the extension of the approval to practice in cases of emergency such as injury, sudden illness or death of the supervising physician during the declared state of emergency without submitting evidence of a new supervising physician. A certified nurse midwife seeking an extension of approval to practice must first notify Board of Nursing staff, who may grant an extension for up to forty-five (45) days. The certified nurse midwife shall endeavor to secure another supervising physician during the extension period. The emergency provisions are temporary and shall expire on August 1, 2020, unless the waiver provisions are sooner amended, or rescinded by the Board or further Executive Order.

This waiver does not waive other statutory requirements or limitations. This waiver shall take effect on April 27, 2020 and shall remain in full force and effect until December 31, 2020, or unless sooner amended, or rescinded by the MJC or further Executive Order.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Aimee Feste".

Aimee Feste, CNM
Chair Midwifery Joint Committee