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Legislative Information for Nurse Practitioners – Updated March 26, 2025

On March 19, 2025, the Governor signed Session Law 2025-2, House Bill 47 H47v7.pdf extending Quality Improvement Plan Flexibility for one year from the initial statewide Declaration of Emergency pursuant to Executive Order 315 (2024). This section (located on page 20 and copied below) waives review requirements in rule for Collaborative Practice Agreements or Quality Improvement Plans for Nurse Practitioners who reside or are employed in the areas affected by Hurricane Helene through September 25, 2025. The following counties or territories in Western North Carolina were identified: Alexander, Alleghany, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Catawba, Clay, Cleveland, Gaston, Haywood, Henderson, Jackson, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Polk, Rutherford, Swain, Transylvania, Watauga, Wilkes, and Yancey Counties, and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians.

If you have questions about this Enacted Legislation, email <u>legislativeliaison@ncbon.com</u>. We thank you for your willingness to serve the patients in Western North Carolina!

SECTION 5.9. EXTEND QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN FLEXIBILITY

SECTION 4B.3.(a) Waiver of Collaborative Practice Agreement Rules. – Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, neither the North Carolina Medical Board nor the North Carolina Board of Nursing shall enforce any provision of the annual review rules or the quality improvement plan rules for collaborative practice agreements under (i) 21 NCAC 36 .0806, .0810, .0813, (ii) 21 NCAC 32S .0204, .0213, and (iii) 21 NCAC 32M .0110 and .0115 if the physician assistant or nurse practitioner resides in or is employed in the affected area.

SECTION 4B.3.(b) Waiver of Fees. – Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, neither the North Carolina Medical Board nor the North Carolina Board of Nursing shall enforce any provision of the rules listed in subsection (a) of this section to the extent they require any individual to fill out an application or pay a fee, provided that individual (i) is providing volunteer health care services in the affected area to assist with disaster recovery and relief efforts within the scope of his or her license or (ii) qualifies under subsection (a) of this section.

SECTION 4B.3.(c) Limitation. – Any physician assistant or nurse practitioner holding an approval to practice or a license that has been surrendered or is currently suspended due to disciplinary action does not qualify for the waivers under this section.

SECTION 4B.3.(d) Expiration. – This section expires one year after the statewide declaration of emergency was issued by the Governor in Executive Order No. 315.

