



STATE OF IOWA

Governor Terry E. Branstad
Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds

BOARD OF NURSING
Kathleen R. Weinberg, MSN, RN
Executive Director

TO: General Assembly
FROM: Kathy Weinberg
DATE: October 27, 2016
RE: Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Compact (APRN)

The proposed bill is language for the APRN Compact. It allows an advanced practice nurse to have one multistate license and practice in other member states both physically and electronically.

What is the APRN Compact?

- An interstate compact which is a statutory agreement between two or more states.
- Allows advanced practice nurses to practice in other member states, subject to each state's practice law.
- Iowa adopted the initial APRN Compact in 2002 along with Texas and Utah. Due to the lack of uniformity among states, the APRN Compact was not implemented.

The APRN Compact will:

- Allow for independent practice and patient care (written in statute). **This is current practice in Iowa for advanced practice nurses.**
- Allow for independent prescribing of noncontrolled substances (written in statute). **This is current practice in Iowa for advanced practice nurses.**
- Allow for prescriptive authority of controlled substances per each state's requirements. **Currently in Iowa advanced practice nurses may prescribe controlled substances.**

- Provide uniform licensure requirements (ULR) for all states (will be written in rule).
 - APRN title – **Iowa will need to change the current title of Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner (ARNP) to Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN).**
 - Recognition of four roles; certified nurse practitioner, clinical nurse specialist, certified registered nurse anesthetist, clinical nurse midwife. **This is current practice in Iowa.**
 - Active RN license and APRN license. **This is current practice in Iowa.**
 - Graduate of an accredited graduate program. **This is current practice in Iowa.**
 - Current national certification in one population foci. **This is current practice in Iowa.**
- Require criminal background checks. **This is current practice in Iowa.**
- Require the advanced practice nurse to be licensed not only per the ULRs, but also meet the home state's qualifications.

Benefits of the APRN Compact:

- Reduce regulatory requirements by eliminating the necessity to obtain a license in each state.
- Increase access to care while maintaining public protection.
- Clarify a nurse's authority to practice in multiple states via telehealth.
- Allow nurses to quickly cross state borders and provide vital services in the event of a disaster.
- Remove burdensome expenses for both nurses and the organizations that employ them.
- Provide member states the authority to facilitate a discipline case across state lines.

During the 2016 legislative session, two states adopted the APRN Compact. The states are Idaho and Wyoming.