



July 8, 2022

The Honorable Chris R. Holden
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O St., Suite 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 1375 (Atkins) – SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Holden:

California's hospitals and health systems are actively transforming their services to meet patients' needs, particularly those of underserved and vulnerable populations. Hospitals have long supported clinical practitioners working to their full scope of licensure to practice and maximizing the role of nurse practitioners (NPs) by expanding their practice authority. Senate Bill (SB) 1375 makes necessary clarifications to existing law — Assembly Bill (AB) 890 (Wood, Ch. 2020) — allowing NPs to meet specified criteria to practice independently without physician supervision, and expanding access to care for all who need it.

For that reason, the California Hospital Association (CHA) is pleased to support SB 1375.

The eligibility requirements in AB 890 for NPs to practice independently include:

- Certification from a nationally accredited certifying entity
- Completion of postgraduate transition to practice requirements — three full-time equivalent years of practice or 4,600 hours

The postgraduate transition to practice (TTP) is a period of time intended to allow newly licensed NPs to receive hands-on experience and mentoring, working under physician supervision. However, this requirement does not recognize the ability of NPs with years of physician-supervised practice experience to apply that experience immediately. With a minimal fiscal impact to the state, SB 1375 will clarify that NPs who have been practicing for three or more years satisfy the TTP requirement established in AB 890.

By allowing experienced nurse practitioners — who have been practicing in good standing under physician supervision for decades — to utilize prior experience to fulfill the TTP requirement, California can increase its ability to quickly expand access to high-quality care, especially for those who need it most. NPs are more likely to see and take on new Medi-Cal and uninsured patients, and they can help close the provider gap in communities where accessing health care is already a challenge.

Because SB 1375 is a key step to ensuring that thousands of qualified and experienced NPs are available to provide services for communities who need them, CHA and its more than 400 hospital and health system members urge you're your AYE vote on SB 1375.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Vanessa Gonzalez". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Vanessa Gonzalez
Legislative Advocate

cc: The Honorable Senate President Pro Tem Toni Atkins
Members of the Assembly Appropriations Committee
Allegra Kim, Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Gino Folchi, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus