



Bill Summary

Physician Assistant Modernization Act of 2024

[House Bill 806](#)

BILL SUMMARY

HB 806 requires that a physician assistant have a collaboration agreement, rather than a delegation agreement, and eliminates the requirement for advanced duties to be approved by the Board of Physicians (existing law already waives advance duty approval for PAs in hospitals and ambulatory surgical centers) for PAs who have:

- More than 7,000 hours of experience
- Had advanced duty previously approved
- Work in federally qualified health centers

WHAT'S NEXT

- The Board is charged with collaborating with stakeholders to review the current advanced duty list to determine if some of those duties should be considered core duties instead
- The Department of Health will work over the interim with stakeholders to determine if the process for dispensing approval can be modified

WHAT YOU CAN DO

Inform medical staff and HR departments about the changes made to the physician assistant statute

Inform general counsel about the inclusion of PAs in the noneconomic damages cap statute. For more information, contact [Jane Krienke](#), Senior Analyst, Government Affairs.

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Removes the requirement that the physician's name be on the prescription provided by the PA
- Removes the requirement that the PA be an agent or employee of the physician
- Moves "paperwork" to the practice level. PAs will be required to submit information to the Board that verifies they have a collaborative agreement along with the names of the physicians. The collaborative agreement itself and any associated documentation will be kept at the practice level.
- Recognizes PAs may formally delegate to medical assistants after working more than 7,000 hours (3.5 years)
- Retains authority for PAs to dispense if specified under the collaboration agreement
- Protects PAs' ability to remain in practice if a physician can no longer practice in Maryland if one of the collaborating physicians works with the PA
- Provides administrative penalties for issues associated with filling out paperwork with the Board correctly. Currently, the Board can only issue formal disciplinary orders, which are then reported to the National Practitioners' database.
- Adds PAs to the statute that caps noneconomic damages