

## **Physician Assistant Law Changes effective July 1, 2018**

**S. 345 passed the General Assembly on May 8, 2018 and was signed by the Governor May 18, 2018 clarifying that PAs can practice telemedicine. The excerpt of the bill is as follows:**

### **Physician assistants, telemedicine authorized**

SECTION 7. Section [40-47-935](#) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

"Section [40-47-935](#). (A) Physician assistants may perform:

- (1) medical acts, tasks, or functions with written scope of practice guidelines under physician supervision;
- (2) those duties and responsibilities, including the prescribing and dispensing of drugs and medical devices, that are lawfully delegated by their supervising physicians; provided, however, only physician assistants holding a permanent license may prescribe drug therapy as provided in this article; and
- (3) telemedicine in accordance with the requirements of Section [40-47-37](#) including, but not limited to, Section [40-47-37](#)(C)(6) requiring board authorization prior to prescribing Schedule II and Schedule III prescriptions, Section [40-47-113](#), approved written scope of practice guidelines, and pursuant to all physician supervisory requirements imposed by this chapter.

(B) A physician assistant is an agent of his or her supervising physician in the performance of all practice related activities including, but not limited to, the ordering of diagnostic, therapeutic, and other medical services."

### **Physician assistants, scope of practice to include telemedicine**

SECTION 8. Section [40-47-955](#)(B) of the 1976 Code is amended to read:

(B) Pursuant to scope of practice guidelines, a physician assistant may:

- (1) practice in a public place, a private place, or a facility where the supervising physician regularly sees patients; and
- (2) may make house calls, perform hospital duties, perform telemedicine, and perform any functions performed by the supervising physician if the physician assistant is also qualified to perform those functions."

### **Time effective**

SECTION 9. This act takes effect July 1, 2018.