

Support House Bill 361 to Expand Patient Access to Care



More than
2 million
Kentuckians live
in areas that are
experiencing
healthcare provider
shortages.

Amid a growing healthcare provider shortage, physician assistants (PAs) have the education, training and experience to meet patient needs. But outdated regulatory structures and burdensome mandates must be modernized to ensure the next generation of PAs choose to live and work in Kentucky.

The Kentucky Academy of Physician Assistants (KAPA) asks for your support of HB 361.

What would HB 361 do?

HB 361 would remove unnecessary administrative burdens and give PAs a voice in their regulatory body.

Proposals in HB 361 include the following:

- **Remove** alternate physician requirement.
 - Supervising physicians are required to designate an alternate physician in their application to supervise. The physician shortage makes this an enormous administrative burden. Removing this requirement would allow flexibility at the practice level while allowing a PA to have multiple supervising physicians as appropriate.
- **Amend** CME requirements for HIV and pediatric abusive head trauma.
 - All Kentucky PA programs require training on HIV and pediatric abusive head trauma. Allowing graduating PA students to apply their curriculum to meet the CME requirement will remove duplication.
- **Add one** PA to the Kentucky Board of Medical Licensure (KBML) as a non-voting member.
- **Require** the chair of PAAC be a licensed PA.
- **Require** members of the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee (PAAC) to be nominated by fellow PAs.

What Kentucky Patients Say About PAs

A 2023 survey from
The Harris Poll found that:

93%
of Kentucky
patients say
PAs add value
to healthcare
teams.

89%
say PAs
improve
health
outcomes for
patients.

92%
support updating
PA practice laws
to allow states and
healthcare systems
to fully utilize their
healthcare
workforce.

To learn more about PAs
and why we support HR 316,
contact info@KAPA.



¹ <https://www.kff.org/statedata/custom-state-report/?i=80429%7C119f8b24&g=ky&view=3>

² The Harris Poll; *The Patient Experience: Perspectives on Today's Healthcare*