

CHAPTER 106**(HB 595)**

A Concurrent Resolution to direct the Legislative Research Commission to study the advisability of allowing advanced registered nurse practitioners to prescribe Schedule II through V controlled substances.

WHEREAS, there is a shortage of physicians in rural areas, and advanced registered nurse practitioners help to improve access to care in lieu thereof; and

WHEREAS, there is some disagreement as to whether the advanced registered nurse practitioners' assuming the duty of prescribing Schedule II through V controlled substances is in the best interest of the patient; and

WHEREAS, over 45 states allow advanced registered nurse practitioners to prescribe controlled substances at various levels under a collaborative agreement with a licensed physician; and

WHEREAS, the advanced registered nurse practitioners are increasingly valued in providing medical services; and

WHEREAS, allowing the advanced registered nurse practitioners to prescribe medications provides terminally ill patients better access to care;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the House of Representatives concurring therein:

Section 1. The Legislative Research Commission shall conduct a study regarding the advisability of advanced registered nurse practitioners prescribing Schedule II to V controlled substances. The study shall survey and evaluate practices in other states and gather data and testimony from affected persons and professionals as to the efficacy of these practices.

Section 2. The Legislative Research Commission shall transmit the results of the study required by Section 1 of this Resolution to the appropriate committees by October 1, 2004.

Section 3. Provisions of this Resolution to the contrary notwithstanding, the Legislative Research Commission shall have the authority to alternatively assign the issues identified herein to an interim joint committee or subcommittee thereof, and to designate a study completion date.

Approved April 9, 2004