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# OHIO LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION

Office of Research  
and Drafting

Legislative Budget  
Office

H.B. 561  
133<sup>rd</sup> General Assembly

## Bill Analysis

**Version:** As Introduced

**Primary Sponsor:** Rep. Galonski

Elizabeth Molnar, Attorney

### SUMMARY

- During the period of the COVID-19 emergency, suspends the law requiring a physician assistant to practice under the direction, control, and supervision of a physician.
- Declares an emergency.

### DETAILED ANALYSIS

#### Physician assistants

The bill suspends – for the period of the COVID-19 emergency declared by the Governor – the following requirements governing the practice of physician assistants:<sup>1</sup>

- That a physician assistant must practice under the direction, control, and supervision of a physician;<sup>2</sup>
- That a physician must maintain supervision of a physician assistant;<sup>3</sup>
- That a physician assistant may perform services only if authorized by the physician assistant's supervising physician, or if applicable, by the health care facility in which the physician assistant practices.<sup>4</sup>

The bill also specifies that its provisions do not limit the existing authority of a physician assistant to provide medical care in response to a need precipitated by a disaster or

<sup>1</sup> Section 1. See Executive Order 2020-01D, issued March 9, 2020.

<sup>2</sup> R.C. 4730.02(B), 4730.08(A)(1), and 4730.25(B)(2), none in the bill.

<sup>3</sup> R.C. 4730.19 and 4731.22(B)(31), neither in the bill.

<sup>4</sup> R.C. 4730.08(A)(2), 4730.20, and 4730.25(B)(1) and (2), none in the bill.

emergency<sup>5</sup> or to administer, deliver, or distribute drugs in accordance with a protocol implemented following the declaration of a public health emergency.<sup>6</sup>

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## HISTORY

Action	Date
Introduced	03-23-20

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<sup>5</sup> R.C. 4730.04, not in the bill.

<sup>6</sup> R.C. 3701.048, not in the bill.