



AzANA

Arizona Association of Nurse Anesthetists
24654 N Lake Pleasant Pkwy, Ste 103, PMB 456
Peoria, AZ 85383

FAQ sheet regarding SB1362

Q: Why is legislation necessary?

A: In 2011 Arizona's Auditor General found a discrepancy in statute relating to CRNA prescriptive authority. Although prescriptive authority currently exists in rules, the report stated that there was no current statutory recognition for such.

Q: What is the goal of this legislation?

A: The AzANA has two goals with this legislation: 1) resolve the concern of the Auditor General report and, 2) maintain current CRNA scope of practice throughout the state. The AzANA is not trying to increase CRNA scope of practice.

Q: How are the AzANA goals accomplished in this bill?

A: The term "prescriptive authority" has been changed to "medication ordering." This will not change the way a CRNA practices within a health care institution. CRNAs will still be able to order medications preoperatively, postoperatively, or as part of a procedure. This better reflects the medication-ordering authority that CRNAs have had in Arizona. Arizona CRNAs do not have—and are not seeking at this time—"prescriptive authority" that allows writing a prescription/prescribing (that is, writing a script that a patient can take to a pharmacy to be filled). SB 1362 merely moves into statute the Arizona State Board of Nursing rules that give CRNAs their scope of practice, and doing this will maintain current CRNA scope of practice.

Q: Who was involved in creating this bill?

A: The AzANA worked closely with our legal counsel, lobbyists, the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, Arizona State Board of Nursing, Arizona Nurses Association, Arizona Medical Association, Arizona Society of Anesthesiologists, as well as a few other stakeholders. All were instrumental in developing language for this bill.

Q: What can I do to help SB 1362 get passed?

A: Establish and maintain good relations with your hospital/facility administrators. Increase their awareness of this legislation and explain the importance that CRNAs maintain current scope of practice in Arizona. You are also encouraged to contact your local legislators (Senators

and Representatives) and let them know that you, as a constituent in their district, would like them to support this legislation.

Q: How can I stay informed?

A: You can watch the AzANA website www.azcrna.com, to follow the updates that are posted. If you need to establish/remember your username/password follow the link provided online.

Q: Who should you contact with questions or concerns?

A: You may send an email to azanacrna@gmail.com with your questions/concerns and they will be answered or forwarded to the appropriate party.