

APA-1  
Revised 4/2018

TRANSMITTAL SHEET FOR  
NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION

Control 540 Department or Agency Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners  
Rule No. 540-X-7-24  
Rule Title: Covering Physicians for Physician Assistants (P.A.)

New  Amend  Repeal  Adopt by Reference

Would the absence of the proposed rule significantly harm or endanger the public health, welfare, or safety? NO

Is there a reasonable relationship between the state's police power and the protection of the public health, safety, or welfare? YES

Is there another, less restrictive method of regulation available that could adequately protect the public? NO

Does the proposed rule have the effect of directly or indirectly increasing the costs of any goods or services involved and, if so, to what degree? NO

Is the increase in cost, if any, more harmful to the public than the harm that might result from the absence of the proposed rule? NO

Are all facets of the rulemaking process designed solely for the purpose of, and so they have, as their primary effect, the protection of the public? YES

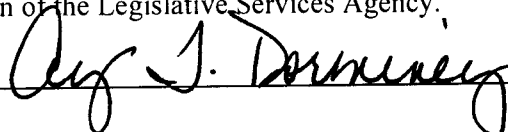
Does the proposed action relate to or affect in any manner any litigation which the agency is a party to concerning the subject matter of the proposed rule? NO

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Does the proposed rule have an economic impact? NO

If the proposed rule has an economic impact, the proposed rule is required to be accompanied by a fiscal note prepared in accordance with subsection (f) of Section 41-22-23, Code of Alabama 1975.

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Certification of Authorized Official

I certify that the attached proposed rule has been proposed in full compliance with the requirements of Chapter 22, Title 41, Code of Alabama 1975, and that it conforms to all applicable filing requirements of the Administrative Procedure Division of the Legislative Services Agency.

Signature of certifying officer 

Date: 5/22/18

APA-2

**ALABAMA STATE BOARD  
OF MEDICAL EXAMINERS**

**NOTICE OF INTENDED ACTION**

AGENCY NAME: Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners

RULE NO. & TITLE: 540-X- 7-.24, Covering Physicians for Physician Assistants (P.A.)

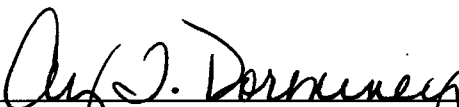
INTENDED ACTION: To amend the rule

SUBSTANCE OF PROPOSED ACTION: To provide that a covering physician must meet the same qualifications as the supervising physician

TIME, PLACE, MANNER OF PRESENTING VIEWS: All interested persons may submit data, views, or arguments concerning the proposed new rule(s) and regulation(s) in writing to: Carla H. Kruger, Office of the General Counsel, Alabama State Board of Medical Examiners, Post Office Box 946, Montgomery, Alabama 36101-0946, by mail or in person between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, until and including July 5, 2018. Persons wishing to obtain copies of the text of this rule and submit data, views, or comments or arguments orally should contact Carla H. Kruger, by telephone (334-242-4116) during said period in order to set up an appointment for a hearing respecting such oral data, views, or arguments. Additionally, the intended action is available at the Board's web site, [www.albme.org](http://www.albme.org).

FINAL DATE FOR COMMENT AND COMPLETION OF NOTICE: July 5, 2018

CONTACT PERSON AT AGENCY: Carla H. Kruger

  
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Amy T. Dorminey, Board Secretary

540-X-7-.24 Covering Physicians for Physician Assistants (P.A.).

(1) When the primary supervising physician is off duty, out of town, or not on call and not immediately available to respond to patients medical needs, the physician assistant is not authorized to perform any act or render any treatments unless another qualified physician in the same partnership, group, medical professional corporation or physician practice foundation or with whom the primary supervising physician shares call is on call and is immediately available to supervise the physician assistant and has previously filed with the Board a letter stating that he or she assumes all responsibility for the actions of the physician assistant during the temporary absence of the primary supervising physician.

(2) The covering physician providing the supervision shall also affirm in the letter that he or she is familiar with the current rules regarding physician assistants and the job description filed by the supervising physician and the physician assistant, that he or she is accountable for adequately supervising the medical care rendered pursuant to the job description, and that he or she approves the drug type, dosage, quantity and number of refills of legend drugs which the physician assistant is authorized to prescribe in the job description. The covering physician must meet the same qualifications as the supervising physician as established Rule 540-X-7-.17.

**Author:** Alabama Board of Medical Examiners

**Statutory Authority:** *Code of Alabama* §§34-24-290, *et. seq.*

**History:** Repealed and Replaced: Filed September 21, 1998; effective October 26, 1998. Repealed and Replaced: Approved June 6, 2002. Effective Date: October 24, 2002. Amended/Approved: May 16, 2018.