

1979
First law recognizing Physician Assistants in Texas

1981
Creation of the Physician Assistant Advisory Committee to the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners.

1989
Passage of HB 18 - Omnibus Health Care Rescue Act
Enabled PAs to work under direct supervision of a physician

1991
Texas PAs are recognized by statute as Registered Health Care Professionals

1993
Passage of HB 2498 - Physician Assistant Licensing Act

- Created PA advisory council
- Established licensure for PAs
- Establishes supervision requirements
- Created the Rural PA Loan Reimbursement Program

1994
First PA license issued.
Dwight Deter License # PA00001

1995
Passage of SB 673 - Delegation of Prescriptive Authority to PAs (dangerous drugs only)
PAs to declare a death
Sign for a sample
Prescriptive authority delegation limited to 3
Primary Practice Site defined

1998
Texas Medicaid Rule Change
Changed supervision language to model Texas statute on PA supervision

1999
SB1131 - Changes to PA Practice

- Expanded hospital requirement to provide policies on procedural rights in the credentialing of PAs
- Insurance code modified to recognize PAs as selected health care practitioners & statutory law forbidding discrimination in recognizing PAs
- Allowed health care organizations the ability to develop reimbursement methodology for PAs
- Statutory language to allow individuals to call in prescriptions on behalf of the PA

2000
PAs recognized to sign ULL physicals

2001
SB1166 - Alternate Site Requirements
Allowing PAs to be able to prescribe outside the primary practice site.

SB1264 - Scope of Practice of a PA acting in a Delegated Practice
Agent language added, designating the PA as the agent of the physician

2003
HB1095 - Scheduled Prescriptive Authority
Prescription authority expanded to include Schedules III - V

2005
SB419 (Sunset Bill) - Authorized the continuation of the Texas State Board of PA Examiners
HB1577 - Utilization of PAs in a declared disaster, provides immunity to PAs in that setting

2009
SB1984 - Handicap Placard
PAs can write for prescription handicap placards, rural counties only
SB532 - Prescriptive Authority Changes

- Refills to 90 days
- Delegation from 3 to 4 PAs
- Waivers for mileage, supervision, & on-site requirements

SB292 - Texas Physician Health Plan

- Better way to monitor impaired physicians and PAs

2011
HB2080 - Handicap Placards in all Settings
HB2098 - Allows PAs to form partnership/corporation/professional association and/or limited liability companies with their physician
HB1720 - Allows Prescribing of Private Duty Nursing/PT/OT & Speech Therapy when delegated by a physician
HB 2703 - Allows Physicians to delegate authority of PAs to prescribe the fabrication, adjustment & fitting of prosthetics & orthotics

2013
SB406 - Expansion of Delegated Prescriptive Authority & Site based reform

- Schedule II delegation
- Delegation from 4 to 7 PAs
- Unlimited delegation in hospitals

2014
22TAC185.16-Removal of Supervision Limit for PAs
TPAB removes limit in rules on number of PAs that a physician may supervise
No limit on number of PAs that a physician may supervise

2015
SB622 - Expansion of the Texas PA Board (TPAB) and requires Chair to be a licensed PA

- Adds 4 PAs to TPAB
- Creates PA majority on TPAB
- Requires appointment of PA to Chair the TPAB

HB1874 - Palliative Care Interdisciplinary Advisory Council

- PAs named to Council

SB202 - Transferred Radiation Jurisdiction over PAs to the Texas PA Board

- Removed jurisdiction of PA radiation education and training from DSHS and placed with TPAB

SB195-Eliminated Texas Controlled Substance Registration requirement for PAs

2017
HB 1978 - Volunteerism for PAs
Allow PAs to volunteer their services at any public or private events
HB2546 - Worker's Compensation
Allows physicians and PAs now to fill out and sign the work status report, DWC - 073
SB 1625 - Whistleblower Law and More
Whistleblower: makes it illegal to terminate a PA who refuses to commit or omit an action that the PA knows would be reportable to the Texas PA Board and this protection may not be nullified by contract
QA Meeting Revisions: simplifies quality assurance meetings for PAs only by allowing the physician and PA to determine in what manner the QA meetings will be held, face-to-face meetings no longer required for PAs

Sunset Issues
ISC hearings held by the Texas PA Board requires a PA board member to be present at the hearing
Texas PA Board may go into Executive Session for disciplinary or licensure matters regarding specific licensees to protect the confidentiality of the licensee
Removing the requirement that applicants be of "Good Moral Character"
PA license will now be valid for a minimum of two years
Allows the board to deny renewal applications
Created a training manual for all PA board members involving the scope of, and limitations on, the board's rulemaking authority
Authorizing fingerprinting for a licensure background check
PA licenses must be processed within 51-days after the PA's application is complete

SB919 - Signing of Death Certificates
Allows a PA to sign the death certificate of a patient who was under hospice care or palliative care

SB1107 - Telemedicine
Created new expansive laws for the use of telemedicine and includes PAs as participating providers

2021
HB4048 - Allows PAs to sign death certificates.
HB 2093 - PAs are recognized as mental health professionals

TEXAS ACADEMY OF PAS

LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

- Optimal Team Practice (OTP)
- Schedule II Prescriptive Delegation
- PA Practice Ownership
- Title Change to Physician Associate

For more information on the Texas Academy of PAs, please visit us online at www.tapa.org

The Texas Academy of Physician Assistants is the leading PA organization in Texas that serves the profession through professional development, education, representation, legislative advocacy, and a commitment to team-based care.