

Submitter: Denise Cardinali RN
On Behalf Of:
Committee: House Committee On Education
Measure: HB2959

As a Registered Nurse working in the school setting for 16 years, I am writing in support of HB 2959 which is very important to my practice. When I work with school staff and administrators caring for our students who are medically complex staff often expect that I will provide training in areas that are outside of my scope of practice. A common example of this is students who have physical disabilities that require the expertise of a physical and/or occupational therapist. I have been fortunate that the team I work with respect my practice when I say that other health professionals need to be contacted. I know that some of my colleagues do not have that experience where they are ordered to do work that they lack adequate education and expertise to perform.

For the student, this lack of understanding of the scope of healthcare practice can result in delays in getting needed evaluations and staff training. Sometimes it means a student can not start school in a timely manner.

Additionally, health care in the school setting in most schools is significantly lacking in tools to support effective and efficient documentation.

The work of this task force will support students in the best possible educational experience with appropriately qualified staff. For school districts, there will be guidance about various scopes of healthcare practice and resources to better understand documentation.

Thank you

Denise Cardinali RN