

More great news to report, on July 11, 2019, Governor Parson signed SB514 into law. This bill contained our PA language that was discussed in our previous correspondence after it was passed by the Missouri Legislature last May. Below are the highlights of SB514 as it relates to our PA statute.

- The term “supervision” has changed to “collaboration” throughout our entire statute. This aligns PA laws with the APRN and AP statutes, better reflects the PA-physician relationship, and eliminates the confusion and perceived difference between PAs and other health professionals.
- Current onsite supervision requirements of 4 hours every 14 days have been eliminated. Specifics related to supervision will be addressed during the rule promulgation process by the BOHA. But keep in mind that part of the statute language states that onsite supervision requirement can be met via telemedicine devices. So whatever supervision requirements are decided upon, again, these can be met through telemedicine devices.
- Language stating that a PA may only see patients where the “supervising” physician routinely sees patients has been eliminated.
- The requirement for a PA to work for one month and 100 hours onsite with a supervising physician prior to practicing in a remote location has been removed. New language allows for the PA/physician team to determine what amount of time practicing in the same location would be best for their practice prior to the PA practicing remotely from the physician.

Bills that were passed during the 2019 Legislative Session and the signed into law by Governor Parson will go into effect on August 28, 2019. The next steps will include the rule promulgation process via the Board of Healing Arts. It is my plan to schedule a meeting with the staff at the Missouri Board of Healing Arts to proactively discuss the rule making process in relation to SB514 and do our part to help facilitate a smooth process in relation to the rule promulgation process. But regardless, this is all still cause to continue celebrating. Please also pass the information along to your clinic, hospital or healthcare organization so they are made aware of these changes to the law. If they have questions, please refer them to SB514, or reach out to MOAPA and one of us would be glad to offer whatever assistance you may need in conveying this exciting information to your employer. We will keep you abreast of any new developments regarding any of what was discussed above.

As always, thank you for your support of MOAPA and for all the hard work all of you do representing the PA profession.

Paul Winter
MOAPA President