

BILL ANALYSIS

H.B. 2548
By: Zerwas
Public Health
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Interested parties contend that physicians and physician assistants work together in a dynamic relationship uniquely qualified to determine patient care and that physicians should be able to delegate to a physician assistant the authority to prescribe or order Schedule II drugs at the practice site as part of the continuum of care. H.B. 2548 seeks to authorize a physician to delegate that prescribing and ordering authority to a physician assistant.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

H.B. 2548 amends the Occupations Code to authorize a physician to delegate to a physician assistant the prescribing or ordering of a Schedule II controlled substance as established by the commissioner of state health services under the Texas Controlled Substances Act at the practice site.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2017.