AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 53, relative to prescription of buprenorphine.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. The commissioner of mental health and substance abuse services shall convene a working group to examine the potential impact of authorizing advance practice nurses and physician assistants in this state to prescribe buprenorphine containing products for the treatment of opioid use disorder and any potentially appropriate clinical settings for any such prescribing authority. The working group shall include at least one (1) representative from the Tennessee department of health, the Tennessee department of mental health and substance abuse services, the Tennessee bureau of investigation, the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police, the Tennessee Medical Association, the Tennessee Nurses Association, the Tennessee Academy of Physician Assistants, the Tennessee Primary Care Association, the Tennessee Society of Addiction Medicine, the Tennessee Recovery Coalition, the Tennessee Association of Alcohol, Drug, and Other Addiction Services, the Tennessee Association of Mental Health Organizations, Neighborhood Health, and a facility licensed as a nonresidential office-based treatment facility by the department of mental health and substance abuse services.

SECTION 2. Any costs associated with participation in the working group shall be borne by the individual participants or their respective associations or organizations and not by the state of Tennessee, except for those who are employed by this state. In no event shall this working group require the hiring of additional staff by this state.

SECTION 3. No later than February 1, 2019, the working group shall submit a report regarding its findings and recommendations to the commissioner of mental health and substance abuse services, the commissioner of health, the health committee of the house of representatives, and the health and welfare committee of the senate, at which time the working group shall cease to exist.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.
HOUSE BILL NO. 2510

PASSED: April 17, 2018

Beth Harwell
BETH HARWELL, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Randy McNally
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE

APPROVED this 21st day of May 2018

Bill Haslam, GOVERNOR