

# Florida TaxWatch



## Report and Recommendations of the Florida TaxWatch Government Cost Savings Task Force for Fiscal Year 2011-12

### **Recommendation #58: Expand the role of Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants.**

- Advanced registered nurse practitioners (ARNPs) and physician assistants (PAs) are highly trained health professionals who increasingly provide primary care in a variety of settings across the nation.
- In recent years, they have increasingly assumed responsibility and independence.
- In Florida, they are allowed to perform their duties under the supervision of a physician.
- However, if they were allowed to perform procedures within their scope of training without the supervision of a physician, they can perform up to 80% of the primary care functions, which are currently billed by a physician. Such a change will result in cost savings health care services both for the state government, employers, and residents...

**Florida Tax Watch recommends the Legislature should redefine the role and responsibility of advanced registered nurse practitioners and physician assistants allowing them to perform procedures within their scope of training without the supervision of a physician.**

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