The *Annals of Health Law* is proud to present the Eleventh Issue of our online, student-written publication, *Advance Directive*. *Advance Directive* aims to support and encourage student scholarship in the area of health law and policy. In this vein, this issue explores the challenges and opportunities facing mid-level healthcare providers and their scope of practice. The authors examine a variety of issues related to scope of practice, ranging from increasing the scope of practice of nurse practitioners to allowing military medical personnel more opportunities once they end their service.

The Issue begins with a concentrated look at mid level providers in Illinois. First, we examine the possibility of Illinois’ psychologists obtaining the ability to prescribe medication. Our authors also explore eliminating scope of practice barriers for physician assistants and nurse practitioners in Illinois. Then, our authors discuss the need for expanding midwifery scope of practice in Illinois to improve access to health care and also to advance both feminist and financial arguments.

Our Issue continues with an analysis of broad changes to scope of practice laws throughout the United States. First, we consider the PPACA’s impact on the scope of practice laws affecting nurse practitioners. We also discuss the scope of practice laws that constrain nurse practitioners working in rural settings across the nation. Our authors then discuss new alternatives across the United States that aim to increase access to primary care such as pharmacists who are granted prescriptive authority, the use of retail clinics, onsite health clinics at large employers, and the use of telemedicine by nurse practitioners. Then, our authors discuss how acupuncture licensing laws should be changed to allow greater access to alternative medicine. We also discuss the potential of utilizing veteran military medical personnel to increase access to care.

Finally, our Issue concludes with a comparative look at states’ policies concerning scope of practice laws. We first compare the policies of Oregon and California regarding nurse practitioners’ scope of practice. We also compare New Mexico’s and Texas’ scope of practice laws for nurse practitioners and do so while examining these policies’ impacts on physician liability.

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We hope you enjoy your Eleventh Issue of Advance Directive.

Sincerely,

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