

2608

May 15, 2007

Ms. Ann Steffanic
Board Administrator
State Board of Nursing
P.O. Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

INDEPENDENT REGULATION
HEALTH COMMISSION

2007 JUN -14 AM 10:24

RECEIVED

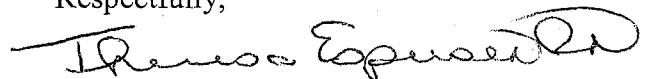
Dear Ms. Steffanic,

As an RN and Certified School Nurse in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, I feel it is necessary to share my concerns regarding the proposed continuing education requirements for nursing licensure. Currently, PA certified school nurses are required to submit 180 hours of continuing education to the Department of Education every five years. These hours satisfy the Department's 'Act 48' requirements. The topics are selected and approved based on relevance to nurses in the school setting. Alternately, a nurse may submit 6 college credits for approval.

My concern is that the school nurse-related courses and in-services are not always categorized as traditional nursing topics. The subject matter frequently falls under the umbrella of Education (school law, curriculum design, supervision of instruction) or Health Science (public health related information). However, they are relevant to the practice of a public health nurse in the school setting, where both health and education laws apply.

I ask that you please consider allowing the Department of Education Act 48 hours be admissible for PA registered nurse license renewal. Thank you.

Respectfully,



Theresa Espersen, RN, BSN, CSN
381 Courtland Ave
Harleysville, PA 19438
espersen@verizon.net