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251 Poplar Lane
Elizabethtown, PA 17022
May 24, 2007

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

Dear Ms. Steffanic:

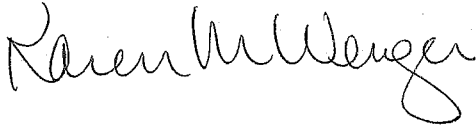
This is a an objection to the financial aspect of requiring R.N.s to complete 30 units of continuing education in order to renew their licenses. I have no problem with the educational requirement, since nursing is a changing field, and we need to stay current.

However, the \$75/hour of continuing education is outrageous. That comes to over \$2000 every two years to renew the license. Certainly our pay doesn't warrant that kind of fee.

You could argue that the nurse wouldn't pay it (unless she was temporarily out of the work force to raise children, for example, which means it would be even harder for her to afford), her employer would. But, even so, any hospital or health care agency doesn't usually have an extra \$2000 per employee lying around. For a large hospital such as Hershey Medical Center which has over 1000 R.N.s on the payroll, that licensing fee would come to over \$2 million dollars. Hospitals are always strapped for cash. In order to pay that, it's conceivable that other things would have to be cut, such as some of our benefits. Or some of our staffing, which is already less than optimal.

This is an irresponsible proposed use of the health care dollar.

Sincerely,



Karen M. Wenger, CRRN

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

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