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DESALES UNIVERSITY

Department of
Nursing and Health

2755 Station Avenue
Center Valley, PA 18034-9568

P: 610.282.1100, Ext. 1271
F: 610.282.2254
www.desales.edu

Ann Steffanic, Board Administrator

PA State Board of Nursing

P.O. Box 2649

Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

REF: No. 16A-5124 (CRNP General Revisions)

November 14, 2008

Dear Ms. Steffanic:

Please accept this letter of support for the above mentioned proposed rulemaking. I have been a CRNP for 24 years, and have practiced in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania the entire time. I am currently the Director of the Family Nurse Practitioner Program at DeSales University, a post I have held for the past 10 years.

I have participated in the various legislative efforts brought forth by CRNPs over the past two decades. I am truly heartened that the changes in the new regulations finally unbind cumbersome and illegal restrictions on CRNP practice. The demographics of our State citizens, coupled with the lack of access to quality services by *all* Pennsylvanians, dictates the imminent need to allow CRNPs to practice to the fullest extent of their legal capabilities.

In addition, almost three decades of monitoring, research, and outcomes evaluation of CRNP practice have produced solid evidence which points to the safety and efficacy of CRNP practice. An era of huge health needs is not the time to further restrict access to services.

Finally, the outrageous points made in objection to the proposed rulemaking have no basis in fact, research or substance. Mere anecdotal or personal opinions should not be allowed to restrict access of Pennsylvanians to health services. Not only are the objections restrictive to CRNPS, but also are immoral in light of the dire need for services in many geographic areas of the Commonwealth.

Please support the health of Pennsylvanians by passing this legislation.

Sincerely,

Carol G. Mest, PhD, RN, ANP-BC

Director of Graduate Nursing Programs

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