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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Ms. Ann Steffanic
Board Administrator
Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing
PO Box 2649
Harrisburg PA 17105-2645

Dear Ms. Steffanic

I am writing to support General Revisions CRNP 16A-5124. As a doctorally prepared, dual board certified, advanced practice clinician practicing in the Commonwealth, I believe these revisions are essential to providing high quality, affordable health care for Pennsylvania citizens.

Governor Rendell's recent legislation has attempted to give us legal standing to "do what we are trained to do", but present restrictions need to be removed. These revisions will accomplish that. The restrictions that exist in Pennsylvania are far more Draconian than in other states. I am licensed in New Hampshire where there are no collaboration or supervision statutes for nurse practitioners. This has never been a problem - the sky hasn't fallen - and patients are getting the care they need.

As a clinician practicing in the emergency setting, I treat pediatrics to geriatrics. This is a challenging, rewarding, and sometimes frustrating job - sometimes complicated by the parochial rules and regulations of the Commonwealth. It is important that Nurse Practitioners be able to prescribe pain medications in the amount and strength needed. My pharmacology preparation is more complete than some of the "high level" providers I work with.

As officers in the Army reserve, nurse practitioners are filling billets as general medical officers with great success. The Army Flight Surgeon of the Year is a "mid level" provider.

Organized medicine has repeatedly attempted to block any and all comers to the medical arena by citing safety and training issues. Numerous studies cite nurse practitioner safety and ability as matching or exceeding that of physicians. These tactics are the same used by the AMA when "those osteopaths" wanted to practice to their ability - that was 50 years ago. The real reason: power and money.

Please pass these revisions.



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