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November 19, 2008

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

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

To the State Board of Nursing:

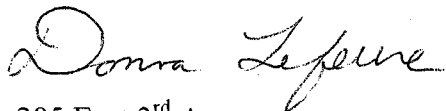
I have been a Registered Nurse for 21 years and a Nurse Practitioner for 13 years. I am contacting you in support of approving **16A-5124 CRNP General Revisions**. Many Pennsylvanians, along with the rest of the country, are experiencing difficulty both affording and accessing health care. Nurse Practitioners provide competent, safe, accessible, and affordable health care to their patients. The proposed changes will allow Nurse Practitioners to better meet the needs of their patients.

The ability to prescribe Schedule III and IV medications for 90 days will greatly increase our ability to care for our patients in a cost effective manner. The current restriction of 30 days negatively affects the patients we care for. Many insurance plans will provide a 90 day supply of medication to the patient at a reduced rate. It places an unfair burden on the patient when they are not able to take advantage of this cost savings simply because they are receiving care from a Nurse Practitioner. In addition, it requires the patient to be seen again for additional office visits. This may result in an additional co-pay and transportation costs for the patient.

I appreciate your efforts to provide safe, accessible, and cost effective health care for the residents of Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

Donna Lefevre RN, MSN, CRNP



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