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Independent Regulatory Review Commission  
Arthur Coccodrilli, Chairman  
333 Market Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Re: Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing CRNP regulation changes  
Ref.# 16A-5124 CRNP General Revisions

Dear Mr. Arthur Coccodrilli,

Hello. My name is Kellie Cervini, RN, BSN and I am currently a nurse practitioner student at the University of Pennsylvania. I have read the proposed CRNP regulatory changes and feel an urgency to discuss my thoughts and rationales about these regulations.

There is a shortage of primary care physicians and this shortage is expected to grow in the future. Nurse practitioners are certainly qualified to fill these shortages. With regulations placed on our practicing rights how can we fulfill the needs of our patients and the communities that we serve? When I made my decision to become a nurse it was based on the desire to help others maintain their optimal level of wellness. This optimal level of wellness can be achieved by improving some of the regulatory changes I have listed below.

The first change is **allowing 30 day prescriptions for schedule II controlled substances from the current 72 hour rule.** This rule makes achieving pain relief very difficult for those patients who must see their CRNP every 72 hours and pay a co-pay for every visit. This may not seem like a lot of money to some but to those on a fixed income, this is absurd. The change should allow the nurse practitioner a 30 day prescribing period to ensure continual pain relief and increased convenience for the patient.

The second change I feel strongly about is **allowing 90 day prescriptions for schedule III to IV from present 30 day rule.** Many patients use the mail order prescription both for convenience and for decreased cost. This change will allow nurse practitioners to accommodate those patients that utilize this method.

The need for nurse practitioners will continue to grow and practicing under rules that allow facilitation and delivery of quality patient care will only make the future of health care flourish. I urge everyone involved in this process to think about what is best for the patient....after all, isn't that what we are here for???

Sincerely,

*Kellie Cervini, RN, BSN*

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