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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY REVIEW COMMISSION

State Board of Nursing

To Whom It May Concern:

RE: 16 A-5124 CRNP General Revisions

I am a family nurse practitioner providing health care in rural PA. I am requesting removal of the collaborating ratio 4:1. The physician is not on site and this is a barrier to care because of the shortage of primary care providers. While I have my physicians name on my prescription pad, many of my tests have been sent to his office which is separate from mine, resulting in delay of care. I had an abnormal pap on patient that he received and faxed me two weeks after I had already taken care of the referral to the appropriate. This situation occurs every time I order an imaging study such as an xray! Would you like your family member's result go to someone else?

Also, extending schedule II drugs to 30 days, would be beneficial. I can treat attention deficit disorder however, due to this limitation of schedule II drugs, it makes it impossible unless I use only one medication, strattera. Just as one antibiotic does not work for everyone neither does one drug for attention deficit disorder.

Maintaining the status quo creates a disincentive for patients to choose NP's for primary care, and is counter to what Govenor Rendell intended with passing Act 48 in 2007. I request the State Board of Nursing to assist to remove these barriers to care for nurse practitioners.

Sincerely,

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Melissa Rudd, MSN, CRNP

Rural Valley Community Health Clinic

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