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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY  
REVIEW COMMISSION

Paula A. Jacobus, M.D., F.A.C.P.  
Internal Medicine & Geriatrics

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To Whom It May Concern:

As a Nurse Practitioner working and living in Pennsylvania, I am contacting you in support of approving 16A-5124 CRNP General Regulations. The proposed changes are important to ensure consistency with the expanded scope of practice for nurse practitioners authorized by Act 48. Additionally, it will improve access to health care in Pennsylvania.

The limitations on Schedule II, III, and IV drug prescriptions hamper my ability to treat patients as I was trained to do. I have patients that would like to take advantage of a 90 day supply of Schedule III and IV medications but cannot because of the limits placed on nurse practitioners prescribing. Currently, I must seek out my collaborating physician and typically interrupt a visit with another patient to have her sign the prescription for a 90 day supply. If my collaborating physician is not in the office at the time, it causes a delay in patient care as my patient must wait for a prescription to be mailed to them. Patients want to take advantage of the savings with 90 day prescriptions and the new regulations would enable them to do this.

The removal of the 4:1 nurse practitioner to physician ratio would improve access to care for many Pennsylvanians who are seen in nurse practitioner run clinics or rural areas. While this does not directly impact my practice, I have numerous colleagues who are restricted because of this mandatory ratio. With fewer new physicians entering into primary care, this will only become more problematic in the upcoming years.

The proposed CRNP regulations would remove barriers to access of care for the residents of Pennsylvania. With the goal of improving access to health care for all Pennsylvanians, approval of these Rules and Regulations will provide another step to improving healthcare for the residents of Pennsylvania.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Carol A. Henderson".

Carol A. Henderson, MSN, CRNP  
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York, PA 17402