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November 29, 2008

Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing
PO Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105

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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

RE: CRNP Proposed Rulemaking

I am writing in support of the proposed new regulation, reference no.: **16A-5124 CRNP General Revisions**. Specifically, in regards to the removal of the 4:1 nurse practitioner (NP) to physician ratio and schedule II-IV prescribing.

There is a widespread shortage of primary care providers. Eliminating the 4:1 NP to physician ratio would help increase the number of primary care providers in Pennsylvania (PA). This would directly benefit the PA population.

In regards to the scheduling, by granting 30 to 90 day prescription, patients are able to continue necessary medications without breaking the continuum. Many times it is not possible for a patient to make an appointment with a physician in 3 days who would be able to re-prescribe them the medication. Allowing longer periods of prescription by the NP and wider coverage of prescription schedules will allow there to be a continuum in care. This will also allow more patients to be able to receive either insurance coverage or reimbursement for their medications.

NPs are wonderful to work with. I have worked with them in hospital, school, and office settings. They are well-trained in their areas of practice and always professional and cordial. Allowing them to practice to the full extent of their scope, would benefit not only the public but also the health field by increasing numbers of competent primary care providers. I strongly encourage the approval of the amendments to NP scope of practice in Pennsylvania.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



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