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INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to support the proposed amendments to Title 49, Chapter 21 requirements for Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners in the state of Pennsylvania.

I am a nationally certified adult psychiatric and mental health nurse practitioner. I recently returned to Pennsylvania after having practiced my profession in North Carolina for the last two years. It has been my personal experience that the current prescribing regulations do not allow a CRNP to practice to the full extent of his/her training or abilities. I believe that the current prescribing regulations have no evidence to support their continuance. I would like to refer to the Pearson Report for comparative purposes. There are a number of states with notably less restrictions and roadblocks in providing patient care. There is absolutely no evidence that allowing a CRNP to practice to the full extent of their training, national certification, and expertise endangers patients in any way. It is my contention that the new proposed regulations would only improve patient care and continuity of care for our consumers and patients in the state of Pennsylvania.

When making any significant changes to current state law, I would hope that the board review the most recent evidence, the most current research, and best practice models. I believe that upon careful deliberation, the board would find no such evidence to suggest that the current restrictive regulations be continued.

As a CRNP, my main concern is that of the highest quality patient care that I can offer to my patients. The current prescribing restrictions hinder timely care and place impositions on my patients receiving psychiatric care. You can imagine the roadblocks that we already face in mental health care when caring for this fragile population.

After careful and deliberate review of the proposed changes, I believe that they are safe. I believe that they would give CRNPs the ability to practice to the full extent of their training and national certification. I believe that they allow the patient more timely care with less interruption to continuity of care. I excitedly support the proposed amendments!

Respectfully submitted,



Kelly M. Winkelvoss, CRNP