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31 Sandy Stone Drive
Orangeville, PA 17859
December 3, 2008

INDEPENDENT REGULATORY
REVIEW COMMISSION

Ann Steffanic, Board Administrator
Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing
P.O. Box 2649
Harrisburg, PA 17105-2649

Re: 16A-5124 CRNP Regulations

Dear Ms. Steffanic:

I support the passage of the revised regulations for CRNP practice here in Pennsylvania. The ability to prescribe controlled substances for up to 30 days as well as schedule III and IV drugs for up to 90 days will be quite helpful for the citizens of PA who see a CRNP for their health care. In addition, I also support removing the limited ratio of NP:MD of 4:1.

There have been numerous studies which have illustrated the safety of CRNP practice as well as showing that in many instances, CRNP practice is superior to MD's; this is especially true in providing care for patients with chronic conditions. The fact that MD's still refuse to acknowledge this ability of nurse practitioners to provide safe, effective care indicates their "dog in the manger" behavior of wanting to retain complete control over health care, even in areas where the care they provide may be inferior. Is this because they are truly concerned about the health of Pennsylvanians, or because they are concerned about the health of their pocketbook? In my view, their behavior clearly demonstrates the answer to this question. A limited ratio of NP:MD is unnecessary. In fact, I think that MD collaboration and collaborative agreements are unnecessary.

I urge you to encourage legislators to support the proposed CRNP regulations since I believe it will ultimately lead to greater access of care for Pennsylvania citizens. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Sharon R. Haymaker, Ph.D., C.R.N.P.