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230 Conway Stite Carlisle, PA 17013 December 7, 2008 [|] PM 2: 22

> INDEPENDENT REGULATORY HEVER COMMISSION

Ms. Anne Steffanie **Board Administrator** PA State Board of Nursing PO Box 2649 Harrisburg, Pat 17105-2649

Dear Ms. Steffanie,

I am writing in support of the new regulations for nurse practitioners in PA. I am an RN as well as a board member of the Sadler Health Center Corporation, a community health center in Carlisle, PA.

The CRNPs that serve our un- or under-insured clients are invaluable. With only one full time and one part-time physician on staff, the CRNPs enable our patients to have access to health care that would otherwise not be available to them. Sadler sees over 1000 medical patients a month and the number is growing in this economy. Some of the CRNPs are part time but still count as one in the 4:1 ration of CRNP to MD. We need our CRNPs to provide the needed care in our community and they need to be able to utilize the full scope of their education and training

Gov. Rendell supported these changes 2 years ago and now the State Regulatory board needs to approve them. I encourage you to be an advocate for our excellent CRNPs in PA and help needed patients get the health care they need.

Sincerely,

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Patricia K. Niemitz