



 Outlook

[External] CRNA Proposed Rulemaking

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To ST, RegulatoryCounsel <RA-STRegulatoryCounsel@pa.gov>

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To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing in response to the State Board of Nursing's proposed rulemaking, 16A-5145 (CRNA).

I am a practicing Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist specializing in cardiac anesthesia. Throughout my career, I have had the privilege of providing anesthesia in both high-acuity surgical settings and rural hospitals—often serving as the sole anesthesia provider in medically underserved areas. Additionally, I am proud to serve as a clinical preceptor for CRNA students, helping shape the next generation of nurse anesthetists in Pennsylvania.

This proposed rulemaking finally recognizes and licenses CRNAs as intended under Act 60 of 2021. It clarifies our scope of practice—to administer anesthesia in cooperation with and under the overall direction of licensed physicians, podiatrists, and dentists—while setting appropriate licensing fees and certification standards. These steps provide both clarity and legitimacy to the essential role we already fill in healthcare systems across the state.

Becoming a CRNA requires an extraordinary level of education and commitment. From advanced pharmacology and pathophysiology to intensive hands-on clinical training in diverse patient populations, our preparation ensures that we can manage complex anesthetic cases independently and safely. In cardiac surgery, the stakes are especially high—requiring constant vigilance, minute-to-minute hemodynamic control, and the ability to make rapid, evidence-based decisions. I bring this same standard of excellence when practicing in rural hospitals, where CRNAs are often the only reason those facilities can continue to offer surgical, obstetrical, and trauma stabilization services.

I also take great pride in mentoring CRNA students—many of whom come from or plan to return to rural communities. Pennsylvania is a national leader in nurse anesthesia education, with 15 high-quality programs across the commonwealth. Supporting this rulemaking reinforces the state's investment in these programs and affirms the value of the professionals they produce.

In today's healthcare landscape, patients deserve care that is safe, personal, and accessible. CRNAs deliver exactly that—remaining with patients through every phase of the anesthetic, monitoring not just their physiological stability, but offering reassurance and advocacy when they are at their most vulnerable.

For all these reasons, I strongly support the proposed rulemaking. I appreciate the work that has gone into finally giving CRNAs the recognition and professional standing we have earned through training, skill, and compassionate care. Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Adam Brodgerski ,MSN CRNA

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