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[External] CRNA Proposed Rulemaking

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Date Fri 7/25/2025 1:27 PM  
To ST, RegulatoryCounsel <RA-STRegulatoryCounsel@pa.gov>

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To Whom It May Concern:

As an SRNA at Commonwealth University, I am writing in response to the State Board of Nursing's proposed rulemaking, 16A-5145 (CRNA). I am currently a junior in my program, beginning my clinical rotations.

This rulemaking finally recognizes and licenses CRNAs as intended under Act 60 of 2021. The rulemaking solidifies the scope of practice for CRNAs to administer anesthesia in cooperation with and under the overall direction of licensed physicians, podiatrists, and dentists, while setting licensing fees and certification standards.

CRNAs take pride in their rigorous education and training standards. These regulations acknowledge the dedication each individual brings to their profession, striving to provide the highest level of care. Before beginning my CRNA program, which is a three-year program, I was a registered nurse in the intensive care unit for six years.

These regulations create a new incentive for students like me to stay and practice here. I know some SRNAs take their talents to other states that recognize CRNAs, even though they have to wait as long as six months to become credentialed, which delays their ability to work. Now, Pennsylvania is an even more attractive place not only to get an education, but to stay and build a career.

Pennsylvania is among the top draws nationally for CRNA students, with 15 highly rated nurse anesthetist programs operating across the commonwealth. With these regulations, Pennsylvania is taking the right approach by strengthening existing CRNA programs and supporting the highly qualified professionals they produce.

In today's changing healthcare environment, patients want healthcare delivered with personal care, at a lower cost, with a high degree of confidence. CRNAs deliver all of these by staying with their patients throughout the entire procedure and ensuring that the patient is cared for—physically, mentally, and emotionally.

For all these reasons, I urge support for the proposed rulemaking. I appreciate all the work that has gone into finally giving CRNAs the recognition they deserve. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

SINCERELY,  
Andrew Hasuga, SRNA