



 Outlook

[External] CRNA Proposed Rule Making

From Julia Dixon-Ernst <juliepde@gmail.com>
Date Mon 7/21/2025 5:57 PM
To ST, RegulatoryCounsel <RA-STRegulatoryCounsel@pa.gov>

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To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Julia Dixon-Ernst, and I am a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) practicing in Pittsburgh. I currently work at a large Level 1 trauma center and a freestanding GI center in cooperation with a gastroenterologist. I also serve as the clinical coordinator at UPMC Presbyterian for the University of Pittsburgh, working closely with our student nurse anesthetists.

I am writing in strong support of the State Board of Nursing's proposed rulemaking, 16A-5145 (CRNA). These regulations reflect the high standards of education and training CRNAs undergo and support Pennsylvania's position as a leader in nurse anesthetist education, with 15 programs across the state.

As both a clinician and educator, I see firsthand the rigor of CRNA training. These rules will strengthen our programs, help retain skilled professionals in Pennsylvania, and address the growing need for CRNAs. Research consistently shows no difference in patient outcomes between care provided by CRNAs and physician anesthesiologists—even in complex cases—demonstrating the high quality and safety of CRNA-delivered care.

CRNAs provide comprehensive, cost-effective, and compassionate care, staying with patients throughout their procedures and attending to their physical and emotional needs.

I urge support for this proposed rulemaking and appreciate the work being done to advance and recognize the CRNA profession. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Julia Dixon-Ernst MSN CRNA
5731 Northumberland St
Pittsburgh PA 15217