



 Outlook

[External] CRNA Proposed Rulemaking

From Kristen Simmons <kristen.simmons@villanova.edu>
Date Fri 7/25/2025 1:10 PM
To ST, RegulatoryCounsel <RA-STRegulatoryCounsel@pa.gov>

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To Whom It May Concern:

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

I have been a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) for 10 years. I currently practice clinically in the operating room in Media, PA, and serve full-time as a faculty member and Assistant Program Director for Villanova University's Nurse Anesthesia Program. Prior to becoming a CRNA, I worked as a bedside nurse for several years, including in the Cardiothoracic Surgical Intensive Care Unit at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania, before completing my nurse anesthesia education at the University of Pennsylvania.

I am deeply committed to ensuring that our profession is staffed by highly skilled anesthesia providers who have completed rigorous training and education. The proposed regulations affirm the high standards CRNAs uphold and recognize our critical role in delivering safe, high-quality anesthesia care to all patient populations across Pennsylvania.

This legislation not only provides long-overdue formal recognition for CRNAs as intended under Act 60 of 2021, but it will also help improve workforce retention. With 15 nationally recognized nurse anesthesia programs across the state, Pennsylvania is a leading destination for nurse anesthesia education. These regulations will encourage our graduates to remain in the state for employment after graduation—something that is crucial for meeting the anesthesia care needs of patients statewide, particularly in rural and underserved areas.

For these reasons, I fully support the proposed rulemaking and appreciate all the work that has gone into advancing our profession. Thank you for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

Kristen

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