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**[External] CRNA Proposed Rulemaking**

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**From** Vanessa Stenulis <vanessa303098@gmail.com>  
**Date** Wed 7/23/2025 7:41 AM  
**To** ST, RegulatoryCounsel <RA-STRegulatoryCounsel@pa.gov>

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To Whom It May Concern:

Hello, I am a student registered nurse anesthetist (SRNA) at UPMC Hamot/Gannon University, and I am writing in response to the State Board of Nursing's proposed rulemaking, 16A-5145 (CRNA). I am currently a third-year student with 10 months left in my program. I am a Pennsylvania resident, originally from Allentown, PA.

The 16A-5145 (CRNA) rulemaking finally recognizes and licenses certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) as intended under Act 60 of 2021. It 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 establishing licensing fees and certification standards. This ruling validates our profession in the state.

Nurse anesthetists must now obtain their doctorate degrees, and I am part of a 36-month-long program where I have clinical hours over 40+ hours a week in addition to my full-time graduate school education. We rotate through many different hospitals and care settings in order to obtain our case numbers. We also take standardized exams throughout our education to ensure our academic skills meet the national standards.

These regulations create a new incentive for students to stay in PA and to practice here. PA has 15 CRNA training programs, which is the highest number per state in the country. This is attractive to me as a PA resident, as I would also be able to build a career in the state in addition to going to school here.

CRNAs provide personable and personal care, with a nursing background leading to a human connection. They provide equally safe care at a lower cost with a high degree of confidence for decades past and the future to come.

For these reasons, I support the proposed rulemaking. I also 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,  
Vanessa Stenulis SRNA  
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