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[External] CRNA Proposed Rulemaking

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Date Mon 7/28/2025 7:24 PM  
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 have been a CRNA practicing in Central PA for nearly 6 years. I grew up in Pennsylvania and completed my anesthesia training in Richmond, VA. Prior to graduation in 2019, I sought employment in PA because it was deeply important to me to be able to serve the community I was raised in.

Unfortunately, Pennsylvania is a challenging and often unappealing state for CRNAs to work in due to lack of recognition and scope of practice limitations. This proposed 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 pride themselves on rigorous education and training standards. These regulations recognize the commitment each individual puts into their profession to provide the highest level of care. As part of my training, I completed thousands of clinical hours, over 1,000 individual anesthetic cases, and served multiple populations throughout the state of Virginia. In VA I was able to train in several sites where CRNAs practice entirely independent of physician anesthesiologists.

Numerous medical studies show there is no statistical difference in patient outcomes when a nurse anesthetist provides treatment. In fact, these studies performed by nationally recognized health-care policy and research organizations prove that CRNAs provide high-quality care, even for rare and difficult procedures.

In today's changing health-care environment, patients want to feel confident in their providers. CRNAs deliver high quality and personalized care at a lower cost.

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

Kind regards,

Brenna Houser, CRNA