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[External] PA RULEMAKING 16A-5145 (CRNA)

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Date Sat 7/26/2025 9:16 AM
To ST, RegulatoryCounsel <RA-STRegulatoryCounsel@pa.gov>

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Dear Sir or Madam:

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

My daughter has been a practicing CRNA since graduating in 2016. Her skills and knowledge are far beyond those that she possessed during her seven years of nursing practice before obtaining a Master's degree in Anesthesia nursing.

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 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. I witnessed her intensive dedication to years of training, watched her travel some distance to receive instruction at hospitals with outstanding reputations, and listened to her joys and frustrations during and after graduation.

During my own recent health surgical issue, my daughter was gratified with the personal touch I received from my nurse anesthetist. We both were comfortable with my/our experience. As I heard my daughter relate and as I experienced, my CRNA stayed with me during the procedure and related to my waiting daughter the more technical aspects for which I granted full disclosure permission.

I understand Pennsylvania to be a top destination nationally for CRNA students, with 15 highly rated nurse anesthetist programs operating across the commonwealth. With these regulations, Pennsylvania is doing the right thing by strengthening existing CRNA programs and supporting the highly qualified professionals these programs produce.

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

SINCERELY,

Dorothy E. Pepe

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