



MAINE ASSOCIATION OF NURSE ANESTHETISTS

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LETTER OF TESTIMONY – Dr. Susan DeCarlo-Piccirillo, DNP, CRNA
IN SUPPORT OF LD 295 – An Act to Repeal Restrictions That Prohibit Certain Advanced
Practice Registered Nurses from Providing Essential Health Care Services
BEFORE THE HEALTH COVERAGE, INSURANCE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

February 13, 2021

Maine State Legislature
Standing Joint Health Coverage, Insurance, & Financial Committee1
SHS, Augusta, ME 04333

Senator Sanborn, Representative Tepler and distinguished members of the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee my name is Dr. Susan DeCarlo-Piccirillo, I am a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist from Newburgh, Maine.

I am writing on behalf of the Maine Association of Nurse Anesthetists to request your support of LD 295 “An Act to Repeal Restrictions That Prohibit Certain Advanced Practice Registered Nurses from Providing Essential Health Care Services”. We support this legislation and agree that the 24-month supervisory rule for Nurse Practitioners should be permanently removed. Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) in Maine have been providing competent, high-quality, effective healthcare for decades. It is also important to note the State of Maine suspended these supervisory requirements in March of 2020 as a result of the COVID-19 State of Emergency.

We believe there is no need to revoke this temporary measure by the Governor and revert back to the outdated regulation from 1995 which mandates supervision for Nurse Practitioners for a period of 24 months. Permanently removing this requirement will allow hospitals, clinics and other healthcare practice settings to utilize Nurse Practitioners to the full extent of their education and training upon licensure.

Maine has a dire shortage of both RN and APRN providers. If this 24-month supervision requirement is eliminated, Maine can attract and retain more health care providers. There is absolutely no evidence to support that these supervisory periods make patients safer or clinicians more prepared. They serve only a barrier to health care providers, both from within and from outside of our state.



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Supporting this legislation assures that the citizens of Maine will have increased access to high-quality health care services and will eliminate the unnecessary workforce bottleneck caused by this burdensome regulation.

Thank you for the opportunity to hear our testimony.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan DeCarlo-Piccirillo, DNP, CRNA
President Maine Association of Nurse Anesthetists