

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Olivia, and I am a new graduate NP with a family nurse practitioner certification, May 2020. The intent of this letter is to urge the committee to reconsider L.D. 295, which would eliminate the 24-month supervisory period.

As a new NP, I must say that I personally felt that throughout my education to obtain my masters and certification, our curriculum is weak. There were several courses that were required, that are currently relatively low yield for my current practice. Courses that could, and should, be replaced by more clinically-based learning opportunities (more pharmacology, pathophysiology, clinical hours, labs...etc.). I found myself lacking basic concepts and foundation, that made me fear entering practice. Even now, after approximately six months of practice, I continue to pursue continuing education from 5-10 hrs/week just to supplement what I did not get in my program. I passed my program in the top 10th of my graduating class.

I work in a rural care setting, where there is limited access to primary care and limited resources. I cannot speak highly enough about my experience with my supervising physician. I feel like this experience has been invaluable thus far, where I get open access to him at anytime in a fast paced environment. He performs 100% chart review and provides nearly instant feedback. It has made me a better practitioner, but more importantly a safer practitioner. As an advanced practitioner, I understand my role in patient care, as part of a team. I feel like our supervising physicians are integral parts to the team, that ensure safe care.

I truly feel that if L.D. 295 were to be enacted, it would be hazardous to new practitioners, as well as their patients. One great quote that was told to myself by an experienced practitioner is: "you don't know what you don't know", and it is true. I feel like it would be irresponsible to start practice without having some sort of supervision starting out, to make sure that the advanced practitioner's patient care is on the right track, and to prevent potentially harmful mistakes. We all abide by "first do no harm", and I fear that taking away our supervision for the first 24 months, in the setting of a weak curriculum that is in place, will place practitioners licenses, as well as patients' lives, at risk.

Please reconsider.

Sincerely,


Olivia Pelletier FNP