



CTAPRNS

March 26, 2021

To Senator Abrams, Representative Steinberg, and esteemed members of the Public Health Committee,

My name is Dr. Christina Morrissey DNP APRN NP-C and I am writing to you on behalf of the Connecticut APRN Society regarding HB 6666,

AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES.

The Connecticut APRN Society writes in support of the inclusion of updated language regarding home care certification. This will bring Connecticut Statutes to comply with the Cares Act of 2020 which allows for the permanent allowance of APRN signatory authority for homecare orders.

In addition, we request inclusion of updated language to statute *20-378 sec 20-87a*, which currently provides for independent APRN practice after collaboration with a physician for three years and 2000 hours. We request updated language that reflects current practice standards which includes collaboration with APRNs (rather than only physicians), including APRN collaboration that may have taken place outside of the state of Connecticut.

The lack of specification that APRNs may have collaborative agreements with their own profession has prevented APRN-owned practices from hiring new graduate APRNs. This further delays the ability of these healthcare providers to provide needed services to the people of Connecticut.

Additionally, APRNs with experience out-of-state currently need a collaborative agreement with a physician for three years prior to practicing independently in Connecticut. This prevents them from working at either an APRN owned practice or independently. This restriction prevents experienced health care providers from working in Connecticut.

We request updates of language to include:

1. Reciprocity for APRNs with experience in other states. APRNs with 3 years and 2000 hours of experience total, including experience from other states, to not need a collaborative agreement in Connecticut.
2. When a collaborative agreement is needed, allowance of APRNs to collaborate with independent APRNs.

These updates will not change scope of practice but will align with current practice standards. Since COVID and an increase in telemedicine, this updated language is even more important than previously.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Christina Morrissey DNP, APRN, NP-C
Health Policy Co-Chair
Connecticut APRN Society
Morrissey.Christina@yahoo.com