

October 4, 2009

Honorable Members of the Program Review and Investigations Committee:

My name is Lynn Price. I am a family nurse practitioner, a member of the Connecticut APRN Society, and Coordinator of the Connecticut Coalition of Advanced Practice Nurses.

The APRN community fully supports the Committee's interest in ascertaining best practices for determining professional scope of practice requests. We fully support taking into account health professions' motivations in both seeking and preventing changes in statutory language. We also support investigating to ascertain if such changes seek to address a barrier to access created by disallowing utilization of full scope of one's license or existing archaic statutory language.

As mentioned at the hearing, motivation for proposing or opposing change in statutory language may include economic gain, or loss or the perception of such. Objective, documented evidence thus becomes paramount in making a fair decision. In fact, the APRN community believes a primary reason for the study at hand is to put in place a process that would make unsubstantiated claims irrelevant. That is the basis of our support.

We urge the Committee to adopt recommendations that require all interested parties to submit substantiated, objective evidence supporting or opposing a position on statutory language change for health professions.