

**PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

**March 20, 2013**

**RAISED BILL No. 6391 AAC THE PRACTICE OF ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES.**

**Testimony of \_Millicent M Malcolm, APRN\_ IN SUPPORT OF RAISED BILL No. 6391**

Senator Gerratana, Representative Johnson, and members of the Committee:

I have been an APRN for 13 years and am writing to urge you to remove the collaborative agreement from the APRN Practice Act. By removing the collaborative agreement for APRNs, it will not change how APRNs practice. We will continue to collaborate with all appropriate healthcare providers as is the norm in healthcare. This will still allow APRNs to continue to provide innovative patient care, without fear of losing physicians as required collaborators. Currently, loss of a collaborator means that patients lose their provider! It will also allow for greater patient access to APRNs for health care. APRNs will have greater opportunity to open practices with each other or on their own. Removing the collaborative agreement does not change the requirement for APRNs to carry their own malpractice insurance to the same limits as physicians. APRNs are solely responsible for their own work, as they have been since 1999. Please recognize that the collaborative agreement is not needed, it only hinders APRN practice and it decreases access to health care for patients.

Thank you,

Millicent M Malcolm, APRN