

## **PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE**

**March 20, 2013**

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

**Testimony of Elizabeth Visone, DNP, APRN; Nurse Practitioner IN SUPPORT OF RAISED BILL No. 6391**

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

I am a Nurse Practitioner who provides care to adults in the Willimantic/Windham community in a variety of settings. I provide care for my patients in the office, hospital, short term rehabilitation and long term care. Because I care for patients with multiple complex co-morbidities I collaborate with other providers, both MD & NP, on many of my patients. In the community of MDs and NPs where I practice we are dependent on the unique skill set each of us brings to our care community. We are dependent of each other's expertise. Collaboration is the key to caring for patients with complex medical problems. For example, I am caring for one of my complex patients' who is in the hospital and I have needed the expertise of a cardiologist, pulmonologist, and surgeon. This patient is well known to me however a new symptom leading to a new diagnosis has required the opinion of a surgeon. Because of the medical changes I needed to have this patients' cardiologist and pulmonologist review his current medical treatment plan to make sure all his medications were still optimized. These opinions were not sought because of the requirement of a collaborative agreement but because it was good and appropriate care for this patient. Care is not given in a vacuum. Good and appropriate care is always about collaboration and what's best for the patient, and has little to do with the required collaborative agreement.

Having said all of the above, when my collaborator retires in a couple of years I will no longer be able to practice in all three of these sites. This will contract my ability to practice at my full capabilities. The question of my opening my own practice when my current collaborator retires has come up several times. It is unclear if I could find another collaborator within my community.