Good Day Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and Members of the Committee:

I write this urgently at full request in favor of Senate Bill 67 as it will impact greatly on the Greater Waterbury community and beyond in Connecticut that I personally impact. As an Adult Nurse Practitioner and the only Primary Care Provider in a busy office in Waterbury, this bill is necessary to continue to provide full primary care to my patients in an area where most primary care physicians have retired and are not replaced by other incoming physicians. Advanced Practice Registered Nursing signature inclusion in this Bill is of utmost importance with numerous Connecticut State employees that I am seeing on a daily basis, offering, as appropriate, Family and Medical Leave to those stated employees, physical forms that have been assessed and diagnosed by myself for in state university and in state high school students, as well as the need for durable medical supplies for these patients such as self glucose monitors.

The need for jury duty notes from patients with severe debilitating comorbidities, to patients who use CPAP Ventilation that I have ordered for severe sleep apnea and their need for my signature in order for their power to be maintained are orders that I sign for at least monthly.

Living will and Advanced Directive declaration is part of primary care. Without this statement and the acknowledgement of the relationship of the primary care provider within this form, there will be a breakdown of patient medical needs. Nurse Practitioners are here and are part of the primary care focus of patients with more patients using nurse practitioners more and more each day. The Advanced Practice Registered Nurse practitioner must be included for the daily aspects of primary care to continue without a devastating halt.

I encourage anyone to follow me while I work so you may see how urgently Senate Bill 67 needs to be passed.

With Most Professional Sincerity,

Ines M. Zemaitis APRN, BC
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