



Connecticut State Society of Anesthesiologists
127 Washington Avenue, East Building, 3rd Floor
North Haven, CT 06473

February 15, 2016

The Honorable Terry Gerratana
Senate Chair
The Honorable Matthew Ritter
House Chair
Public Health Committee
Connecticut General Assembly
Legislative Office Building, Room 3000
Hartford, CT 06106

Re: Testimony of Dr. Viji Kurup, President, Connecticut State Society of Anesthesiologists in Opposition to Senate Bill 67, “An Act Concerning the Authority & Responsibilities of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses”

Dear Senator Gerratana and Representative Ritter:

My name is Viji Kurup, I am a board certified Anesthesiologist at Yale New Haven Hospital and I am also President of the Connecticut State Society of Anesthesiologists (CSSA) which has more than 600 members, and I am writing to urge your opposition to Senate bill 67, “An Act Concerning the Authority and Responsibilities of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses.”

Senate bill 67 erodes the interdisciplinary team-based approach of the practice of medicine, which is led by a physician and supported by an array of health care professionals including nurses, physician assistants and APRNs. Each member of the health care team plays an important role in the health and well-being of the patient, delivering safe, accurate and cost-effective care. Physicians are uniquely qualified to lead the interdisciplinary team because of their extensive training, with countless hours of clinical practice and extensive postgraduate education (at least 7 years).

The bill adds APRN to every aspect where a physician has an administrative role, physician certification or action, diminishing the role of the physician-led practice of medicine. This bill is contrary to the current practice of medicine in Connecticut and across the country and dismantles a team approach to medicine that is based on safe patient care and works for the healthcare system.

The Connecticut State Society of Anesthesiologists is a professional association of physicians engaged in the practice of anesthesiology in the State of Connecticut. The Society’s mission is to champion patient safety, to raise and maintain the standards of the specialty of anesthesiology and to make available to more people the benefits of the services of qualified anesthesiologists.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony in opposition to SB 67. We urge the Committee to reject the legislation and preserve the current model of physician-led care in Connecticut.

Sincerely,

Viji Kurup, MD
President