



CTAPRNS

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE
MARCH 7, 2016 PUBLIC HEARING

IN SUPPORT OF RAISED BILL No.5538

AN ACT CONCERNING THE SCOPE OF PRACTICE FOR ANESTHESIOLOGISTS

Senator Gerratana, Representative Ritter and members of the Committee,
Thank you for raising this bill, addressing anesthesiology services.

My name is Monte Wagner, MSN MPH FNP-BC APRN DNP(candidate). I am a nurse practitioner working in community health, serving our most vulnerable populations. I represent the Connecticut Advanced Practice Nurse's Society as co-chair of the health policy committee.

I am writing you in support of the amendments requested by the Connecticut Nurse Anesthesia Association (CANA) to the proposed house bill 5538. CANA proposes the following amendments to the proposed bill (bolded and underlined) to include certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) as is current practice in this state:

Sec. 2. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2016*) A physician licensed under chapter 370 of the general statutes who is a board-certified anesthesiologist **and a nurse licensed under chapter 378 of the general statutes who is a board certified registered nurse anesthetist** may administer minimal sedation, moderate sedation, deep sedation or general anesthesia on the patient of a dentist licensed under chapter 379 of the general statutes for purposes of assisting the dentist in his or her treatment of the patient.

(d) A dentist shall not be required to obtain a permit issued under this section if a physician who is (1) licensed under chapter 370, and (2) a board-certified anesthesiologist **or a nurse who is (1) licensed under chapter 378, and (2) a board-certified registered nurse anesthetist** assists the dentist by administering moderate sedation, deep sedation or general anesthesia on the dentist's patient.

This, likely accidental, omission would exclude CRNAs from providing patient services for which they are trained, board certified and licensed under current law. As advanced practice registered nurses, CRNAs have a long track record of providing safe and efficient care in a variety of in and out-patient settings. The current wording may also increase costs and limit

access to care for many patients that need adequate sedation for painful dental procedures. This is especially true for my patients in community health, who already experience limited access to health care.

Please consider the proposed amendments favorably.

Respectfully submitted by
Monte Wagner, MSN MPH FNP-BC APRN DNP (candidate)
Health Policy Committee
CT APRN Society