

Public Health Committee Hearing

March 29, 2021

Chairs Senator Abrams and Representative Steinberg and esteemed members of the Public Health Committee.

My name is Dr. Lynn Rapsilber DNP ANP-BC APRN FAANP and I am a Nurse Practitioner. I own NP Business Consultants, LLC and a Co-founder of the National Nurse Practitioner Entrepreneur Network helping NPs build and sustain practices. I am past President of CTAPRNs and co-chair of the Coalition of Advanced Practice Nurses.

**I am writing in support of Raised Bill 6666: AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH'S RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING VARIOUS REVISIONS TO THE PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTES.**

The Cares Act of 2020 made permanent the allowance of APRN signature authority to certify home care orders. This has been pivotal for APRNs who provide care for their patients to be able to sign for home care orders. Please allow Connecticut adoption of this language regarding home care certification.

Please consider updating language to Statute 20-378 sec 20-87a, which currently allows for APRNs to attest to practice without a written collaborative agreement with a physician after completing 2000 hours and 3 years of clinical practice. I am requesting the addition of APRN as a collaborator. An APRN practice owner precepts students and they are at a disadvantage to hiring these NP students post-graduation. The investment they make to educate and train the next generation of providers is lost when they cannot ultimately hire and provide the necessary collaboration.

Experienced APRNs coming from states outside of Connecticut must be under physician collaboration even if in the state they are coming from had no such requirement. This is a hardship for these APRNs as they may not know any physicians who would provide this collaboration agreement. Furthermore, it prevents them from being hired by APRN led practices or start their own practice in the state. These APRNs are also recruited by universities to train the next generation of APRNs. Reciprocity will help eliminate barriers to practice as will the addition of APRN as a collaborator thus increasing access to experienced APRN workforce as well as increasing access to care for our residents.

Thank you for your time,

*Lynn Rapsilber DNP APRN ANP-BC FAANP*

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253 Fairlawn Drive Torrington, CT 06790

lrapsilber@optonline.net