

April TK, 2018

To: Members of the Pennsylvania Professional Licensure Committee  
From: Americans for Tax Reform  
Re: Support House Bill 100

Dear Representative,

On behalf of Americans for Tax Reform (ATR) and our supporters across Pennsylvania, **I urge you to bring forward and support House Bill 100, which would modernize dated laws that pointlessly restrict the scope of practice for nurse practitioners. If implemented, HB 100 would make health care more accessible and more affordable, and save billions of tax dollars.**

Nurse practitioners are highly educated and thoroughly trained medical professionals that provide a full range of health care services. Despite their capabilities, under current law in Pennsylvania, nurse practitioners are required to have collaborative agreements – business contracts – with two physicians. Many claim these collaborative agreements are necessary to ensure patient safety, but that is simply not true.

Research has proven that such mandates offer no benefits to patient health. In fact, more than 100 studies have proven that nurse practitioner-led care is safe and high quality. The truth of the matter is these unnecessary government barriers are nothing more than protectionist policies designed to limit competition in the medical field. And unfortunately, patients are the ones who suffer.

Indeed, **the 22 states that give nurse practitioners full practice authority have seen health outcomes improve.** That is because granting nurse practitioners the freedom to utilize their education and training to the fullest extent results in more primary care providers available to patients. This not only makes health care easier to access, but also boosts the competition that naturally lowers prices and improves quality, all of which increase the odds of catching problems while they are small, treatable, and less costly.

In that vein, **HB 100 would also be a huge win for all Pennsylvania taxpayers.** Health care spending is by far the largest portion of Pennsylvania's budget, with billions of tax dollars spent on health care for state employees and those on Medicaid each year. As such, it would be foolish and irresponsible for lawmakers not to take up and support HB 100, as the reforms it would bring to Pennsylvania have been estimated to decrease health care costs by **\$6.4 billion over the next decade, according to a recent study from Duke University School of Law.**

For these reasons, **ATR urges you to support HB 100.** ATR will be educating Pennsylvania taxpayers as to how state legislators vote on this and other important tax, regulatory, and economic matters during the 2018 legislative session. If you have any questions, or if ATR can be of assistance, don't hesitate to contact me or Margaret Mire, ATR's state affairs manager, at [mmire@atr.org](mailto:mmire@atr.org) or 202-785-0266.

Sincerely,



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