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March 28, 2019

Dear Pennsylvania Senators,

**RE: Support SB 25**

The Pennsylvania Organization of Nurse Leaders (PONL) is the voice of nursing leadership in Pennsylvania, representing more than 600 nursing administrators at all levels including chief operating officers, chief nursing officers, directors, managers, educators and others responsible for the delivery of safe, high quality, and cost-effective patient care. PONL functions as a networking and information vehicle for Pennsylvania nursing leaders and is the state affiliate of the American Organization of Nurse Executives (AONE).

As nurses, leaders, and consumers of health care, our members are informed and concerned about access to high quality health care for all Commonwealth citizens. Research studies have shown that care delivered by Certified Registered Nurse Practitioners (CRNP's) is high quality resulting in similar outcomes at lower cost when compared to care provided by physicians.<sup>1</sup> CRNP's are often more willing than physicians to provide care in the underserved areas of rural Pennsylvania and our inner cities.<sup>2</sup> Removing the licensure requirements for physician collaboration will increase access to care, reduce costs, and would promote growth of the nurse practitioner workforce.<sup>3</sup>

Current **outdated** regulations hamper the ability of CRNP's in our state to practice to the full extent of their education, knowledge and skills. **Our PONL members respectfully request that you support and pass SB 25 as soon as possible to expand access to quality care for patients and families in both your district and the entire Commonwealth.** It's overdue for Pennsylvania to join other states and Washington, DC in granting full practice authority to our CRNP's!

Thank you for your time and consideration of this important issue. Please don't hesitate to contact me at 412-344-1414 with any questions you might have.

Sincerely,

Marion Burns Tuck, PhD, RN, FACHE  
Executive Director, PONL  
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<sup>1</sup> American Association of Nurse Practitioners. (2013). *Quality of Nurse Practitioners Practice*

<sup>2</sup> Pennsylvania Coalition of Nurse Practitioners. (2015). *Nurse Practitioners Care for PA*. [pcnp@pacnp.org](mailto:pcnp@pacnp.org).

<sup>3</sup> Duke University School of Law. (2015), *The Value of Full Practice Authority for Pennsylvania's Nurse Practitioners Technical Appendix*. [https://law.duke.edu/news/pdf/nurse\\_practitioners\\_report- A-TechnicalAppendix.pdf](https://law.duke.edu/news/pdf/nurse_practitioners_report- A-TechnicalAppendix.pdf) and [https://law.duke.edu/news/pdf/nurse\\_practitioners\\_report-PA.pdf](https://law.duke.edu/news/pdf/nurse_practitioners_report-PA.pdf)

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