



**PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS**

A Woman's Place  
AAUW Doylestown Branch  
AAUW Lower Bucks Branch  
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Bucks County  
Breastfeeding Resource Center  
Bucks County Area Agency on Aging  
Bucks County Commissioners' Advisory Council for Women  
Bucks County Drug and Alcohol Commission, Inc.  
Bucks County Housing Group  
Bucks County Intermediate Unit #22  
Bucks County Opportunity Council  
Bucks County Workforce Development Board, Inc.  
Bucks-Mont Collaborative  
BuxMont Unitarian Universalist Peace and Justice Committee  
Delaware Valley Association for the Education of Young Children  
Family Service Association of Bucks County  
Girls Empowered  
Housing Alliance of Pennsylvania  
Interfaith Community of Lower Bucks  
Keystone Progress  
League of Women Voters of Bucks County  
Libertae  
Makefield Area Action Fund of AAUW  
Maternity Care Coalition  
NAACP, Bucks County Branch  
National Alliance on Mental Illness-Bucks County Chapter  
National Council of Jewish Women - PA  
Network of Victim Assistance  
PathWays PA  
Pennsylvania Health Access Network  
Planned Parenthood Keystone  
Public Citizens for Children and Youth  
Quality Child Care Coalition of Bucks County  
Rolling Harvest Food Rescue Sisters U  
Socrates Developers, LLC  
Soroptimist International of Bucks County  
The Council of Southeast Pennsylvania  
The Peace Center  
Women's Center of Montgomery County  
Woods Services  
YWCA Bucks County

**PARTNER INDIVIDUALS**  
Hundreds of Individual Partners and Growing

**PARTNER BUSINESSES**  
Growing Each Month

March 26, 2019

Dear Senators Collett, Mensch, Santarsiero, and Tomlinson,

We are writing to you as concerned citizens in Pennsylvania. We represent The Bucks County Woman's Advocacy Coalition (BCWAC), a nonpartisan coalition of more than 250 individual partners and 43 partner organizations that serve women and families in our region. We educate and advocate on behalf of women to promote systemic change to achieve gender equity and economic security for all. Access to health care is key to economic security.

We at BCWAC ask you to support SB25-Moderization of the Professional Nursing Law for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), sponsored by Senator Bartolotta, either through co-sponsoring, encouraging leadership to move it into and out of the Professional Licensure Committee as soon as possible, and/or to bring it to a full vote in the Senate. Access to safe, affordable health care continues to be problematic for too many residents of the Commonwealth and is a critical issue facing state government. This bipartisan legislation will improve health care quality, expand access, lower costs, and help keep Pennsylvania's Nurse Practitioners in Pennsylvania.

The bill would end a requirement that NPs obtain business contracts in order to be allowed to practice. These contracts are redundant because NPs are required to collaborate as part of a health care team in order to earn and maintain their national certification. As a compromise brokered with the Hospital Association, SB25 would make Pennsylvania the strictest state in the nation to adopt modern NP rules. It includes a requirement for each NP to work under the current rules for 3 years and 3,600 hours before gaining full practice authority.

Physicians and other researchers at the National Academy of Medicine thoroughly investigated NP care for the landmark 2010 report "The Future of Nursing." They determined that NPs provide safe, high-quality care and endorsed reform (like SB25) that grants full practice authority to NPs. Twenty-two other states and the District of Columbia have already enacted reform. The result has been better care, stronger health care teams and healthier patients.

Patients - and taxpayers - have also realized significant cost-savings from legislation like SB25. Researchers at Montana State University and University of California, San Francisco found provider prices for primary care services fell following the implementation of full practice authority for NPs.

The cost savings also extend to physician malpractice payments. A report in Medical Care Research and Review found that enacting less restrictive scope-of-practice laws for NPs decreases the number of payments made by physicians by as much as 31%.

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All of these benefits occurred with no decrease in care quality or patient health outcomes. On the contrary, patient health improved. A study in Nursing Outlook concluded that states with full practice for NPs have lower hospitalization rates and improved health outcomes in their communities. The same study found that potentially avoidable hospitalization rates were 50% higher in states like PA with outdated NP laws compared to states with modern laws.

This track record is why SB25 is supported by numerous bipartisan advocates across Pennsylvania including The Hospital & Healthsystem Association of PA, AARP Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Health Access Network, the Commonwealth Foundation, and many others.

We urge you to support SB25.

Sincerely,



Kathleen Welsh Beveridge  
President



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Issue Specialist