

Dear State Representative _____

We would appreciate your support for continuation of the Colorado Nurse Practice Act by supporting nurses in removing all barriers to practice in the state of Colorado.

Three modifications needed to the Colorado Nurse Practice Act:

- 1) **LPN focused assessment-** LPN (Licensed practical Nurses) in the state of Colorado need to be able to perform Nursing assessments just like their RN (registered Nurse) colleagues. This is crucial for Colorado because 45 % of nurses employed in skilled nursing facilities, extended care facilities, and home health care are LPN's. Also, 21 Colorado counties rely on LPN staffing to assure that long term care residents are cared for. For this reason, it is necessary for Colorado to **authorize the LPN role in assessment.**

- 2) **Eliminate Barriers for APRN Full Prescriptive Authority-** Currently Colorado is one of **only** two states total that require an articulated plan for APRN's (Advanced practice registered Nurse Practitioners) prescriptive mentoring to be completed. The Federal Trade Commission indicates that APRN's are as safe and effective as independent doctors, have comparable prescribing patterns and patient outcomes. Multiple states **grant APRN's full prescriptive authority upon graduation from an accredited graduate program and national board certification without mentoring requirements.** Colorado needs to allow Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioners to operate at the height of their clinical and educational scope.

- 3) **Clarification of Nursing's role in Patient Care- Colorado Nurses need to be able to perform at the highest level of practice within our scope.** This includes important issues like protecting the title of "Registered Nurse", removing barriers for APRNs to prescribe medications in the state of Colorado, and protecting the personal information of licensed nurses, including information regarding alternative to discipline programs that allow nurses with mental health or substance use concerns to continue to practice safely. By removing these barriers, we can provide quality care to the people of Colorado.

We appreciate you time and look forward to working with you in the future on Stop the Bleed, interpersonal violence, suicide and overall injury prevention and trauma related initiatives.

Sincerely,

Member- Colorado Trauma Network

