

Bethany Goldberg
809 Pound Hill Road
North Smithfield, RI 02896
January 7, 2025

To Whom It May Concern:

I became a nurse practitioner to advance my clinical skills and have the ability to practice autonomously. At Boston College, my fellow students and I took our core assessment and pharmacology classes together and then had the ability to specialize during our clinicals. Since my nursing career had started in obstetrics, I chose the women's health nurse practitioner path. I graduated with my master of science in nursing, became certified in women's health, and was licensed as an advanced practice nurse in Rhode Island. I have always enjoyed how nursing offers such versatile career and advancement opportunities. Between inpatient, outpatient, managerial, and educational settings, I have embraced multi-faceted roles and ongoing opportunities for learning.

Nurses have the ability to adapt to the ever-evolving healthcare industry. Given the advancement and growth of aesthetics, it is no surprise that advanced practice nurses have transitioned to this specialty area. They have thorough assessment and clinical skills, and the ability to perform in-office procedures, which makes them the ideal practitioner in this specialty. Given that all nurse practitioners are required to take the same core coursework, it should not matter which specialty track a nurse practitioner chose, to determine whether they can practice in aesthetics. The Department of Health has suggested guidelines that propose only family and adult nurse practitioners could open a practice in aesthetics. These guidelines would also take away their ability to perform procedures that they are already performing and are fully within their scope of practice. Nurses continue to be the most trusted profession, which may attribute to why aesthetic nurse practitioners have been able to grow their businesses and develop lasting relationships with their patients.

Unfortunately, if the proposed guidelines are put into effect, as a women's health nurse practitioner, I would be unable to practice in Rhode Island. Instead, I would need to go to a neighboring state to open a business. I possess the knowledge and skill-set to practice in aesthetics. As with any new procedures or medications, education and training will be on-going. It would be a disservice to all advanced nurse practitioners in Rhode Island to diminish their abilities and hinder the advancement of these valuable and skilled providers.

Sincerely,

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