

House Committee Health and Human Services
RI State House
82 Smith Street
Providence RI 02903

February 21, 2025

Re: Testimony in Opposition to House Bill 5428 entitled An act relating to the business and professions- nurses

Dear Chairperson Donovan and members of the HHS Committee

My name is Dr. Victoria Quinn and I'm currently employed as a physician in the State of Rhode Island in the pediatric emergency department. I strongly oppose House Bill 5428 entitled "An act relating to the business and professions - nurses" for many reasons as it ultimately seeks to restrict patient/family access to critical health services that are delivered by nurses and nurse practitioners in countless clinical settings across the state.

Rhode Island is experiencing a health care crisis and passage of this bill would result in significantly worsening the current situation.

I oppose bill 5428 because in the pediatric emergency department, we depend on our nurse practitioners and nurses to run moderate conscious sedations and keep children safe during brief but essential procedures such as laceration repairs with complex sutures/ stitching, fixing and casting broken bones, removing foreign bodies from ears, and doing critical physical exams such as eye exams or genital exams safely and comfortably.

Our emergency department is already at critical capacity with patients and struggling with staffing shortages every day, which greatly affects our ability to care for the children of Rhode Island.

By removing the ability of our practitioners to perform moderate conscious sedations with medications such as propofol and ketamine would be to remove an essential skill from the toolbox of our practitioners that would subsequently debilitate our ability to provide safe patient care.

I urge you to vote against bill 5428.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to speak against bill 5428. I am happy to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,
Victoria Quinn, DO