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Dear Representative Donovan and members of the House Health and Human Services Committee,

Please oppose House Bill 7740. It is an unwarranted restriction on advanced nursing practice, does not promote the safety of Rhode Islanders and will result in delays in care while patients wait for an available health care provider. It only serves the economic interests of the profession promoting the legislation. The last thing Rhode Islanders need is legislation that will restrict timely care and that is not based on patient safety data.

I am distressed that a quarter of the way into the 21st century, the tired, alarmist, **not fact-based arguments** are still being made to restrict nurses with the training and credentialing to exercise their full practice authority in the service of patients. "Their education is different" is the only argument for this bill. Different does not mean insufficient. Half a century of research and patient safety data show that patient outcomes for care provided by trained, credentialed nurses practicing within their licensed scope is comparable to that of physicians providing the same care.

Take a fact-based stand in favor of patient safety and health and OPPOSE House Bill 7740.

Thank you.

Cynthia C. Hughes, MSN, RN, NPD-BC