



M. Teresa Paiva Weed
President

May 14, 2024

The Honorable Representative Susan R. Donovan
House Committee on Health and Human Services
State House
82 Smith Street
Providence, RI 02903

Dear Chair Donovan:

The Hospital Association of Rhode Island appreciates the opportunity to express opposition to H8237, an act which defines the administration of propofol and all FDA classified general anesthetics, for any procedure as not within the scope of practice of nurse practitioners. This legislation preempts on-going evaluation of this issue by the Rhode Island Department of Health.

HARI maintains two key concerns. First, that scope of practice should be governed by regulatory bodies equipped to adapt to healthcare changes, ensuring decisions align with medical standards. And second, limiting nurse practitioners' scope of practice could hinder patient care, especially in underserved areas and team-based healthcare settings.

Overall, ensuring that scope of practice is governed by regulatory bodies and allowing nurse practitioners to practice to the full extent of their education and training is essential for maintaining high-quality, accessible healthcare for all patients.

It is for these reasons that HARI opposes H.8237 and urges regulatory authorities retain control over scope of practice issues.

Thank you for consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lisa P. Tomasso", written over a horizontal line.

Lisa P. Tomasso
Senior Vice President