

Steven Sepe

From: Stephanie Machado <skinsciencewithsteph@gmail.com>
Sent: Thursday, May 30, 2024 11:59 AM
To: House Health and Human Services Committee; Rep. Fogarty, Kathleen A.; Rep. McEntee, Carol Hagan; Rep. Shekarchi, K Joseph; Rep. Donovan, Susan R; Rep. Tanzi, Teresa A.; SLegislation
Subject: Against RI S2870/RI H8296

To whom it may concern:

I am writing to oppose the proposed bill S2870.

As a manager in a medical spa who works closely with the medical professionals who would be most affected by this, I felt compelled to write in.

APRNs in Rhode Island have full-practice authority, which means they are able to practice to the full extent of their education and training without physician supervision or collaboration, including the operation of independent practices.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, restrictions on the scope of practice for APRNs were removed by state and federal governments so that patients would have proper access to the care they needed, demonstrating that NPs are in-fact, capable of practicing medicine independently and that this practice results in patient outcomes at reduced healthcare costs. Removing this ability to practice will have an incredibly detrimental impact on not only Nurse Practitioners, but also patients who will have reduced access to care, longer wait times for visits due to shortages of providers, and higher expense to be treated. It will also greatly affect the employment of support staff. Overall, this will create a detrimental domino effect resulting in a significant number of small business closures and the loss of jobs for an incredible number of people.

This legislation would serve only to benefit MDs, specifically dermatologists, while hurting countless highly proficient and adequately trained Nurse Practitioners and creating a barrier to convenient, timely, and cost-effective care to patients.

I respectfully request that you take my statement into consideration when reviewing the proposed bill and that the same is rejected so that APRNs continue to be allowed to practice independently.

Sincerely,
Stephanie Machado
Avalon Medical Spa