

From the office of:  
John E. Hoopman, CMLSO

To the Senate and House Health and Human Services Committees,

I am John E. Hoopman, CMLSO (Certified Medical Laser Safety Officer) an expert in medical laser safety and operation with over 25 years of experience and multiple advanced certifications. I am nationally and internationally recognized as a leader in patient advocacy and an active and guiding member of organizations like the ANSI Z136.3 Safe Use of Lasers in Healthcare, where I served as vice chair for 11 years. I also serve as a laser consultant for the Aesthetic Society, Traveling Professor. In 2018, I was honored with the "Excellence in Nursing and Allied Health" award as a fellow member of the American Society for Laser Medicine and Surgery (ASLMS) and currently the Director of Safety.

I am the co-creator of the Certified Medical Laser Safety Officer (CMLSO) degree and exam that recognizes professionals who have the knowledge and skills to evaluate and manage laser hazards in medical settings. CMLSOs work in various medical environments where lasers are used, including hospitals, therapeutic settings, cosmetic settings. Additionally, I have co-authored 65+ peer reviewed papers on safety, education and laser tissue interaction in both surgical and aesthetic applications.

I currently hold an Associate Professor position at University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center Dallas, Department of Plastic Surgery. The program has an extensive immersion in laser applications and safety.

Based on my extensive background, I highly recommend the engagement of advanced practice nurses in aesthetic procedures, including laser treatments with the proper education and experience. In Rhode Island, as in multiple states in the US and Europe, nurse practitioners are autonomous practitioners, which allows them to utilize their specialized training, clinical expertise, and adherence to safety protocols to ensure high-quality care and excellent patient outcomes.

I firmly believe that delegation of laser, light and energy-based devices to properly educated, trained, and experienced aestheticians and device specialists is safe when operating with oversight. In most states, these modalities are less often performed by physicians, physician assistants, and nurse practitioners and more likely delegated to an extender with appropriate supervision.

Sincerely,

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