



The Hospital + Healthsystem
Association of Pennsylvania

Leading for Better Health

DATE: June 11, 2019

TO: Members of Pennsylvania Senate

FROM: Stephanie Watkins, Vice President, State Legislative Advocacy

RE: HAP Support for Senate Bill 25

The Hospital and Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania (HAP) supports Senate Bill 25 because it would allow certified nurse practitioners (CNP) to practice to the full scope of their license without the need for physician supervision after they have worked under such supervision for three years and 3,600 hours.

Pennsylvania hospitals are asking the Senate to vote yes on this bill.

Critical discussions are taking place across the country and state about how to ensure all individuals have ready access to primary care. In Harrisburg and in Washington, there continues to be a comprehensive rethinking of the way care is provided. This rethinking includes the role of health care professionals in new, team-based models of care.

HAP believes that CNPs do not need unending physician supervision when caring for patients within the boundaries of their training. Today's health care professionals are being educated to function as part of a practicing health care team, which is consistent with the team-based care delivery models being used by hospitals and health systems.

The full use of CNPs and other clinical professionals is needed to build strong patient relationships, help patients and families follow care plans, coordinate care across the continuum, improve patients' health literacy, and provide health education.

Currently, 22 states and the District of Columbia allow CNPs to practice to their full authority. SB 25 would allow Pennsylvania to join these other states and the District of Columbia, and would make the commonwealth one of the strictest states in the country allowing practice without the collaborative/written agreement.

Allowing full practice authority for CNPs after meeting the appropriate physician collaboration requirements is a reasonable, responsible approach to helping to meet the growing health care needs for Pennsylvania.

Please vote yes on SB 25. Thank you for your consideration.