

To: House Committee on Health Care

From: Robert C. McIntyre, MD

Date: February 16, 2015

Re: Testimony in Support of HB 2678

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Chair Greenlick and the members of the House Healthcare Committee:

I am a Board Certified Family Physician and have done at least 1500 vasectomies since 1982. In 1999 I became the Medical Director for what was then called Planned Parenthood of Western Washington and part of my responsibilities included director our vasectomy services. In Nov 2012 I retired from the Medical Director position, but continue to provide vasectomies for PPGNW in Seattle.

Based on the demand in our service area to offer vasectomies to men in Washington, we decided to train interested ARNPs to provide this service. Since 2004 I have trained four ARNPs and I have attached the competency checklist I have used to train both MDs and ARNPs in the no-scalpel vasectomy procedure.

Currently two of the four ARNPs I trained are doing vasectomies and a recent review showed that they did 150 procedures in 2014. The one I trained in 2004 has done close to 1000 vasectomies and the complication rate for the 4 of them was and continues to be very low and similar to physician providers that do vasectomies for PPGNW in Seattle, Anchorage and Boise.

In my opinion ARNPs, PA-Cs and physicians who are properly trained and have good surgical skills and can do vasectomies equally well and ARNPs should not be excluded from providing this service.

Sincerely,

Robert C. McIntyre, MD