

May 16th, 2017

SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH CARE TESTIMONY Senator Laurie Monnes-Anderson, Chair Senator Jeff Kruse, Vice Chair

Re: HB 2103, Permits licensed nurse practitioners to perform vasectomies.

POSITION: NO!

Dear Senator Monnes-Anderson, Senator Kruse and other distinguished committee members:

As a physician, I oppose HB 2103 and I urge you to vote NO.

This bill grossly underestimates the importance of training needed to practice medicine and perform safe surgery.

Nurse Practitioners (NPs) are not surgeons!

NP schools have circumvented the traditional method to medical practice, which is 4 years of post graduate education to obtain an MD/DO degree, followed by a residency, lasting from 3 to 9 years.

An NP degree can be earned with minuscule in-person training in less that two years with no physician oversight, ever. No residency training is required, none.

Once credentialed, NPs are governed by a nursing board, again with no medical oversight.

To practice urology, newly minted medical school graduates must complete a minimum 5 year urology residency.

This overreach beyond NP scope of practice is ridiculous and dangerous!

For your own family, who would you trust with a scalpel? A nurse with no surgical training, or a licensed urologist?

I urge you to vote No on this bill and any other future bill that means to increase NP scope of practice.

Sincerely,

Mehrdad Saririan, M.D.