

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.

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

As a physician and surgeon, 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 physicians. Their pathway is much different, less vigorous and is not what is necessary to manage patients safely and independently.

A QUICK GOOGLE SEARCH demonstrates the proliferation of online NP schools where a degree can be earned with minuscule in-person training in less than two years with no physician oversight ever.

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

To practice urology, physicians undergo 4 years of post-graduate training and go on to a minimum 5 year urology residency.

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

I urge you to vote No.

Sincerely,

Alexandra B. Roginsky, M.D.

Fellow of the American College of Surgeons

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