

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH

Hearing Date: March 24, 2021 8:00 AM

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COMMENTS FOR: HB 2029

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Morvarid Rezaie, Dr.

Fort Worth Primary Care, self (physician)

Fort Worth, TX

I am a board certified internal medicine physician, in practice for over 11 years in Texas. I have worked with mid-level providers like nurse practitioners and physician assistance and appreciate their roles as EXTENSIONS OF PHYSICIANS to provide care to the folks of our great state. However, to allow an under-trained provider the same authority as a physician who has gone through more than 15,000 hours of training is a frightening thing. I direct you to Patients at Risk, a book authored by 2 physicians well-versed in the dangers of permitting NPs and PAs to practice without physician supervision. The answer to lack of access to medical care in Texas is NOT allowing sub-par providers to run loose and exert privileges and skills they were not trained to have. The answer is to CREATE MORE PHYSICIAN RESIDENT TRAINING in the state of Texas. Too many medical students go unmatched every spring due to the lack of programs. Instead of funding online diploma mills, pumping out NPs and PAs with online training only, push the money to create more residency programs!

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STEVEN YOUNT, D.O.

GENERAL & FAMILY MEDICINE

Bastrop, TX

Thank you for your work on this matter. I am a physician, licensed as such in Texas since 1984. I will keep my comments here brief. I cannot support the ongoing push to give Advanced Practice Registered Nurses more authority to practice and prescribe independently than they already have. I have noted the fact that "Everybody wants to be a doctor, but nobody wants to go to Medical School." I completely understand that due to the tremendous sacrifice required to spend all those years in school and then post-doctoral training. The result of that big sacrifice is a physician who is fully trained, tested, and heavily experienced when he is first loosed upon the unsuspecting public and suffering mankind. This is not true of Advanced Nurse Practitioners. I also have deep suspicions that all NP training programs are not the same, having been asked to teach at more than one, and refusing when I saw the weakness of the curriculums. Finally, they are regulated and judged by the Texas Nursing Board, not the Texas Medical Board. This I find inexplicable and dangerous. If you want to practice Medicine, you should be accountable to the Medical Board, not Nurses who themselves have never been held to the exceptionally rigorous discipline of the Texas Medical Board. Thank you for your consideration of this serious question for the ongoing health and safety of the people Texas.

Steven L. Yount, D.O.

Bastrop, Texas

3/19/2021

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Kristen Payne, Dr.

Self

Irving, TX

House Bill 2029 by Rep. Stephanie Klick and Senate Bill 915 by Sen. Kelly Hancock would allow APRNs to independently prescribe dangerous drugs and controlled substances (up to Schedule III with some Schedule II privileges in inpatient facilities and hospice), order and interpret diagnostic testing, and prescribe DME and devices - all without physician supervision. Please stop this bill from moving. Here's why: I have personally been present for APRN clinical teaching sessions. The level of training is sub-par to practice and or prescribe independently. Anyone who has seen an NP train knows this to be true. They are meant to

assist clinical decisions, but they are not trained to make their own medical decisions without supervision.

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Charles Henley

self

Huntsville, TX

to allow APRNs to independently prescribe dangerous drugs and controlled substances (up to Schedule III with some Schedule II privileges in inpatient facilities and hospice), order and interpret diagnostic testing, and prescribe DME and devices.

This is a dangerous and outrageous excursion away from the tenets of nursing and encroachment into the practice of medicine and patient care. I am a board-certified family practitioner with over 30 years of practice experience. I spent 4 years in college, 4 years in medical school, and 3 years in a residency program to become a licensed physician. I then had to certify and recertify as well as attend training programs to obtain CME hours. Nurse practitioners do not have the training, judgment or clinical acumen to be allowed to make decisions about prescribing these drugs. Please do not allow this to happen, it is dangerous for our patients.

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Wyatt Palmer, Dr.

Self, Physician

San Antonio, TX

NonPhysician Providers should NOT practice without direct physician supervision. With the rise of online degree mills churning out NPs constantly and the watered down to nonexistent educational enforcement standards, physician supervision is the last line of defense for patients. The paltry 500-1000 clinical hours of training do not in any way prepare NPPs to practice independently. Especially in comparison to the physician standard of 10,000+ hours of training after medical school.

Apart from the gross inadequacies of education, the legal standard for malpractice for NPPs makes them more dangerous to patients. NPs are not judged by the physician level of care. The law assumes they will make more preventable errors and cause more patient harm than physicians. In *Lattimore v Dickey* (2015) court found that a “nurse’s conduct must not be measured by the standard of care required of a physician and surgeon, but by that of other nurses in the same or similar locality and under similar circumstances.” And given the previous discussion of the incredibly low bar for entry given to NPs by their weak educational requirements, this bill would expose Texans to unnecessary risk of both injury and of being unable to seek justice when wronged by malpractice.

NPPs were never meant to practice alone. They were not prepared to do so and do not have the enforcement ability to adequately do so.

HB 2029 would be a mistake. It writes a very big check and Texas families will ultimately foot the bill. In cost of untreated disease, and in death and disability.

Please vote NO on HB 2029.

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Abby Tramel

self

Fort Worth, TX

APRNs do not have the medical and clinical training to take care of patients without a physician's supervision. If you want to improve access to safe, quality health care in Texas, then you must expand the opportunities for physician-led, team-based care. As a future physician myself (I am currently a first-year medical student), we are trained to lead our teams in a way that each member is assigned a role that best fits their education level and strong suits. To give APRNs this ability would be to put someone

in charge of this kind of team that has not been trained to handle the complex medical situations that they may encounter.

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Ashley M Classen, DO, FAOCA, Physician

Trinity Psin Medicine Associates, PA. Trinity Interventional Pain and Spine, PA

Fort Worth, TX

As a Board Certified Anesthesiologist and interventional Pain Specialist, licensed by the Texas Medical Board as a Pain Clinic, I am acutely aware of the disastrous consequences of the bill and potential harm to the citizens of Texas

In addition to 4 years of medical school and 4 years of Anesthesia Residency, Pain physicians undergo a 9th year in Pain fellowship education and are required to be Board Certufued in the subspecialty of Pain Management/Interventional Pain Medicine.

This compares to 3-4 years of Nursing, 2 years of graduate Masters Level graduate level work and in some cases a Doctorate in Nurse Practice , though most APRN's have only a Masters level degree

The training of nurses and the training of physicians are vastly different in scope and depth- and in particular critical management of acute situations involving drug interactions and overdose misadventure management.

The Texas Supreme Court found that administration of dangerous drugs is the practice of Medicine several years ago in the LaCroix case in Denton, Texas where an APRN did not have physician oversight, resulting in a patient death. To allow APRN's independent prescribing of dangerous drugs without physician collaboration is a grave mistake.

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EDWARD GATES, DO

SELF, PHYSICIAN

ABILENE, TX

I AM AGAINST HB 2029. FOR YEARS NOW I HAVE WITNESSED POOR PRESCRIBING PRACTICES AND POOR PRACTICE OF MEDICINE BY THE MAJORITY NURSE PRACTITIONERS. NURSE PRACTITIONERS COME OUT OF NP SCHOOL INADEQUATELY TRAINED. NURSE PRACTITIONERS SHOULD ONLY PRACTICE UNDER DIRECT SUPERVISION OF A PHYSICIAN, AND THAT PHYSICIAN SHOULD DELIGENTLY DIRECT NURSE PRACTITIONERS PRACTICE OF MEDICINE.

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Katherine Pederson, Dr.

Self

Midlothian, TX

As a rural Family Physician, I stand against this bill.

First APRN do not have the same medical training as physicians. They have 3 years and no residency. Where as physicians have 4 years as 3-7 year residency.

Second I have personally seen overuse of antibiotics by APRNs as if they can't figure out the cause or are to afraid to call it a virus they write an RX.

Third in my rural setting I know 1 medical spa that is owned by an APRN SHE DOESNT DO PRIMARY CARE OR HELP DO ANYTHING OUTSIDE beutification procedures like botox, layers, etc. The claim that this bill will allow APRNs more access to give care to rural is false as many end up doing something else. Also it's not uncommon for APRNS to change what they want to practice on a whim. I personally have witness APRNS going cardiology 1-2 year then decide not enough money so do dermatology. As physicians you cant change specialist like this as you residency training commits you.

Lastly the claim that APRNS will fill a doctor shortage isn't true. Did you know the past residency match 92.8% MDs matched and 89.1% DOs matched. This leaves a huge group of young physicians who didn't match. They have done 4 years of medical school and 2/4 board exams. But they can't work as a physician if they dont match because of how the current medical board rules exist. So focus needs to go to help those unmatched either with more funding for residency spots which has been drastically cut over the years or allowing alternate license such as Missouri allowing those qualified physicians to work in rural settings. If you

approve this bill then your telling all the new medical students (2 new med schools this year alone) that your 4 years mean nothing compared to 3 years at APRN school.

I won't go into the medical errors that many APRNs make and who do not go to the medical board because they are "practicing nursing" and no legal actions can be taken. Where as if a physician makes same mistake lots of legal action and medical board action occurs.

So in summary I encourage you to vote against this bill as it will not help better medicine but will hurt it and turn our state into a third world of medicine.

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Chidinma Oke

Texas resident

Fort Worth, TX

These are professionals in their own right and should be allowed to do what they know to do to reduce maternal mortality and morbidity in Texas women.

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Melissa DeFilippis, MD

Self - Texas Psychiatric Physician

Friendswood, TX

I oppose this bill as a physician in Texas concerned for my patients and all patients in this state. Nurse practitioners are valued members of our treatment team, but they do not receive the quality or quantity of training that physicians receive -- NOT EVEN CLOSE. I have worked in clinics where NP students were assigned to receive their psychiatric training, and they simply shadow us in clinic, without providing any direct patient care. This then counts as clinical experience! As a medical student, I was always involved directly in patient care, with very close supervision and teaching by the attending physicians and received an exponential amount of hours of training compared to NP students. I rotated through every specialty, including surgery, OB/Gyn, pediatrics, family medicine, internal medicine, neurology, and psychiatry (among many other specialties and sub-specialties). Then later, as a resident completing my training in psychiatry, I was responsible for patients, with close supervision from my attending physicians, for 5 YEARS. This included ER training, inpatient acute psychiatry training, outpatient clinical psychiatry training, psychotherapy training, training in addiction, training in child psychiatry, training in forensics, training in consult liaison psychiatry, neurology training, and training in pediatrics and family medicine to further strengthen my primary care knowledge. I took call, had patients under my direct responsibility, etc for 5 YEARS with supervision prior to being able to do this on my own. This training is invaluable and IMPORTANT for patients safety. NP's are our team members and we value their work, but allowing them to provide care independently is dangerous and reckless. There is also no evidence showing independent practice improves rural health care access. I strongly oppose this bill, because I care about my patients and about their safety.

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Ashlyn Biedebach, Garland

Self

Garland, TX

Vote Yes! APRNs need full practice authority.

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Elizabeth Aviles

Texas Midwives, CTCNM, ACNM

Plano, TX

I will be vigilantly praying that this goes through! Certified Nurse Midwives should be able to practice as autonomous providers!

Collaboration, consultation and referral is a given we should not be made to be tied to a physician for prescription privileges. To do so is to limit women's access to much sought after & needed midwifery model of care. All barriers to the ability of a certified nurse midwives to practice independently should be removed. We care about safety and know our limitations. Increase women's unrestricted access to our care and watch maternal newborn health outcomes improve in America. You will see improvements Savings Satisfaction & Safety. Let's go Texas, we are behind the times! Lets start being the head & not the tail!

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Teri Mitchell, Dr.

BundleBorn Midwifery

Frisco, TX

I request that all members of the Public Health committee vote yes on HB2029. Texans across this state are without access to healthcare & Advance Practice Nurses are willing to answer that call & fulfill this need. Amidst a global pandemic, we need to allow the APRN to fulfill their calling without unnecessary restrictions & without delegated prescriptive authority. Although the Texas Medical Board advocates for the delegation to remain in place, their members are not so willing to provide such delegation- and oftentimes when they do it's at significant personal financial burden to the APRN. Data from the states and territories without restrictions to APRNs have shown improved healthcare outcomes & access to care- with a significant lowering of healthcare expenditure. Now is not the time to play politics with the health of Texans. Please vote Yes on HB 2029 to remove delegation on APRNs prescriptive authority. Thank you.

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Jamie Garza

Self RN

Odessa, TX

This bill is essential to ensuring healthcare access to all Texans. By allowing APRN's to practice to the full level of their scope more providers will be able to work in rural settings where no physicians are available. It is my dream to one day practice as a women's health care provider in rural west Texas where many women travel hours for basic health care and obstetrical care. This bill would allow that dream to be a reality by allowing me to practice in accordance with my license. This bill would decrease poor outcomes for all women and decrease maternal mortality rates by increasing access to care.

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Ramon Medina

self

TEMPLE, TX

APRN training (500-1,500 hours) pales in comparison to physician training (12,000 and 16,000 hours). Physicians receive education on the whole body, including knowledge of how medications affect body systems and the interactions they may have. Medication prescribing should be limited to individuals with the requisite training. APRNs should NEVER be allowed to diagnose, treat patients, and prescribe medicine without the oversight of a licensed physician. Do the right thing and vote against this bill.

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Megan Lee

Self

Houston, TX

Advanced practice nurses have been a lifesaver during the pandemic. It's brought to light that advanced practice nurses don't need regulation, as that regulation is usually scarce anyway. It would be in the best interests of the community to enable educated providers to practice to their full scope to better serve a community that needs providers. How often can you not get to see a

doctor at a day notice? Advance practice nurses almost always step in at last minute opportunities to ensure their community is cared for in the best way possible. To ensure our communities are cared for in an easy, accessible way, advance practice nurses need to have prescriptive authority without oversight.

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Connie Black

Self

Kingwood, TX

We need need to remove restrictions for Advance Practice nurses so more women can access safe and affordable healthcare. Now more than ever, we need APRNs to be able to provide healthcare for Texans please vote yes on HB 2029!

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Alisha King, MD

Self - physician

San Antonio, TX

Committee members,

When you are sick enough to need the hospital or the emergency room, do you want to be able to see a doctor?

Because hospitals are facing increasing economic pressures, they are looking for all avenues to cut costs, and replacing physicians with nurses has become common in recent years. One of the largest hospitals in San Antonio recently laid off their psychiatrists (MD/DOs) and replaced them with nurse practitioners and one physician to serve as the medical director. If you or one of your family members were admitted to this hospital, you would still technically have access to this physician if you requested it, but if HB 2029 were passed, there would be no need for the hospital to keep a physician on staff.

My family and I know and understand the vast difference in training between a physician and a nurse practitioner (10000 rigorous hours versus 500-1000 non-rigorous or training hours), and we can choose a physician when we get outpatient care. However, when we are at our most ill, we do not have that flexibility and must rely on the hospital to staff appropriately or receive an unpleasant surprise (possible harm/ death) if not.

Please vote "No" on HB2029 and protect ALL PATIENTS' access to physician care.

Thank you for your time and attention.

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Sapna Singh

Fort Bend Medical Society

Sugar Land, TX

Practice of medicine should require standardized education, board oversight by board of medicine, and liability equivalent to that of a Physician. There is NO such thing as the practice of "nursing to the top of a license". It's either medicine or nursing, and this bill will decimate the differences but leave Texans without recourse for mistakes and lethal outcomes resulting from poor NP training.

Warden Univ is under federal investigation for fraud in nursing education. Many online NP schools will follow suit. The AANP and CCNE REFUSE to look into the online diploma mills...people are literally going to NP schools and working independently with 18-24 months of ONLINE work. Can you imagine that person caring for your child, your spouse, your parent, or YOU??!!

There is NO restriction to NPs practicing in rural areas of TX now. There are no major restrictions on autonomy except to

maintain some oversight by physicians to protect patients. Collaboration allows for a physician to be involved in cases where things are outside of an NPs scope. If you want to increase access, provide unmatched medical students more options to practice in rural areas while they await residency placement. 4400 medical students went unmatched last week across the USA.

Fixing the physician shortage with NPs whose education has NO standards, is like replacing pilots with flight attendants who only worked on a simulator. It isn't SAFE. It isn't responsible. And Texans like Betty Wardenbarger will continue to suffer from mismanagement and die.

We can fix healthcare issues in TX in a smart way. This bill isn't it. It's a power and money grab by the nursing and corporate healthcare lobby...they want to be physicians without the education. They will be paid half by corporate, patients will still be billed full, And they will get substandard care if HB 2029 passes.

This bill is the DEREGULATION of MEDICINE in TX...let's not go down that road and find ourselves regretting it in 5-10 years. We can't afford to lose the lives.

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Esteban A Gonzalez

self-psychiatry

Mission, TX

As a practicing psychiatrist in Texas for 32.5 years I have concerns about the independent practice of advanced nurse practitioners. My experience also involves having for a period of time supervised two nurses and having worked with psychiatric residents.

The level of training of doctors gives them a better understanding of the medical (biological) aspects of psychiatric problems. Hence they are more cautious in their prescribing practice. They are inclined to be conservative in their prescribing. They seek consultation with their peers more often.

My experience with nurses is that they focus on the medications, not the biological, psychological and social aspects of the individual as I was trained.

Certainly with time all persons can gain that experience. It is my concern that nurses training is too brief to be independent practitioners. Examinations and a lengthy supervision, as doctors now have to submit to would help with this issue. It is in the best interest of our patients that they obtain the same level of training as that required of doctors, if they plan to have an independent license.

Hence I am against nurses being independent practitioners.

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Sharada Gowda, Dr

Self

Bellaire, TX

My name is Dr.Gowda, a cardiac critical care physician . I oppose independent practice by APPs as it is detrimental to patients

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Jane Black

Self attorney

Rockwall, TX

37 other states have lifted the restrictions on APRNs. Texas needs to get up to speed with the times and provide more access to

quality medical care.

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David Sheffey, MD

Self - Anesthesiologist

Dallas, TX

NPs have years less training and training that is not as rigorous as MDs. NPs are generally good people, but they are not on par with physicians.

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Edward Elmer

self, physician

Pleasanton, TX

Thank you for your dedication to seeking solutions that benefit Texans' access to high-quality medical care.

Unfortunately HB 2029 will not accomplish this goal. Instead it will give insurers, and other bureaucrats, another tool to cut corners and degrade the quality of medical care patients receive. There are better options, that increase the supply of physicians, like bills being considered in other states to address a growing shortage of training positions for medical school graduates.

I encourage you to stand up for patients and oppose HB 2029.

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RAYMOND LEE CHILTON III, MD

SELF / EMERGENCY PHYSICIAN

AUSTIN, TX

Please oppose HB 2029. Increasing patient access to high quality primary care is crucial, but HB 2029 will not accomplish this goal. If passed, the bill will hand insurers, and other bureaucrats, another tool to cut corners and degrade the quality of medical care patients receive. Instead of deeming lesser trained practitioners to be on par with physicians, there are better options, that increase the supply of physicians, like bills being considered in other states to address a growing shortage of training positions for medical school graduates. Thanks for your help on this important issue!

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Lana Giles, Dr

Consortium of Texas Certified Nurse Midwives

McKinney, TX

APRNs have been trained and certified to prescribe medications. All APRN graduates, with either a master's or doctorate degree, have been educated and tested on the proper treatment of illness. We have the knowledge and skills to prescribe. Thirty other states recognize the education and preparedness of APRNs to independently treat patients and prescribe medications. If the state and the nation recognize the certification of an APRN, shouldn't they recognize ALL the knowledge the APRN has obtained? Why am I allowed to independently perform a Pap smear but not independently prescribe birth control?

According to research, states with independent practice for APRNs have better outcomes, fewer hospital admissions, less use of resources, and higher patient satisfaction. Isn't it time for Texas to join these other states in providing better, cost-effective care?

I ask you to vote yes for this bill. Vote yes because we want to help Texans and save Texas millions in healthcare.

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Peter Curka, Dr.l

NA

Houston, TX

Please oppose HB 2029. Increasing patient access to high quality primary care is crucial, but HB 2029 will not accomplish this goal. If passed, the bill will hand insurers, and other bureaucrats, another tool to cut corners and degrade the quality of medical care patients receive. Instead of deeming lesser trained practitioners to be on par with physicians, there are better options, that increase the supply of physicians, like bills being considered in other states to address a growing shortage of training positions for medical school graduates.

Peter A Curka DO

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Lucy Reason

Self nursing student

Fort Worth, TX

So important!!

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Paresh Patel, Dr

Lone Star Lung & Sleep Clinic

Cypress, TX

I work with NP and worked with NP, many of them are not properly trained and not educated to practice independently. There are too many schools and poorly trained students would flood the medical profession. It's risky and shall not be passed for patient safety.

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Charles Thompson, MD, Dr.

Self Physician

Wolfforth, TX

Please oppose HB 2029. Increasing patient access to high quality primary care is crucial, but HB 2029 will not accomplish this goal. If passed, the bill will hand insurers, and other bureaucrats, another tool to cut corners and degrade the quality of medical care patients receive. Instead of deeming lesser trained practitioners to be on par with physicians, there are better options, that increase the supply of physicians, like bills being considered in other states to address a growing shortage of training positions for medical school graduates.

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Barbara Davis

Self, Doula

Whitney, TX

Certified Nurse Midwives make birthing outcomes better and set the bar for skilled, compassionate care.

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Lisa Coffelt

Self

Mansfield, TX

When I became pregnant with my son, I weighed the option of an obgyn or a midwife. I visited the birth center and spoke with midwives and I still wasn't sure. So I went to my OB, made an appointment, who's office decided that I would need a sonogram from another physician before I could see them. That made my decision. I wanted personalized care, I wanted to know the person who would be delivering my baby. Especially knowing that a lot of the midwives at the birth center had doctorates.

When I went into labor my midwife made the call that we needed to transfer to the hospital to continue laboring. She was still able to deliver my son! Without her, I think unnecessary intervention would have happened, causing additional stress to myself and my child.

Midwives are more than capable of handling births without a doctor. And know when to make the call if it is something that is too risky or beyond their skills.

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Caitlin Seykora, Dr.

Self, Military Physician (Dermatologist)

Arlington, TX

It is critical to patient safety, transparency and fiscally responsible delivery of patient care that advanced practice registered nurses be required to have physician supervision.

Confusion already exists among many patients who see APRNs as they often identify themselves as doctor given their doctor of nursing practice degree. This is misleading to even the savviest of patients who trust their provider's identification at face value and equate the title of "doctor" with "physician" in a health care setting. Giving independent practice rights to APRNs will only increase confusion. Many patients will not understand they are seeing a mid-level provider and not a physician. This is a violation of their fundamental patient right to give informed consent for care.

Expanding the scope of practice for advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) leads to higher costs and reduced safety for patients who are better served by an integrated care team led by a physician whose education and training requirements far exceeds those of other health professionals.

Physicians complete four years of medical school and then gain 10,000 to 16,000 hours of clinical experience during three to seven years of residency training. In comparison, NPs complete two to three years of graduate-level education and 500 to 720 hours of clinical training. It is also more than just the vast difference in hours of education and training there is also significant difference in rigor and standardization between medical school and residency and nurse practitioner programs.

Research also shows that independently practicing APRNs raise health care costs by ordering more diagnostic images and prescribing more antibiotics and opioids than physicians. Expanding the scope of practice of APRNs will take a real toll on health care costs as well as threaten the health and safety of patients. These added costs and patient safety concerns will place a strain on the health care system, on patients and on their families.

It is often argued that increasing APRN scope of practice can increase access to care, however this is categorically false. The AMA Health Workforce Mapper shows that non-physician providers, such as NPs, are more likely to practice in the same geographic locations as physicians—even in states that allow NPs to practice independently.

Patients deserve care led by physicians—the most highly educated, trained and skilled health professionals. Please defend the practice of medicine against scope-of-practice expansions that threaten patient safety by voting NO to increase the scope of practice for APRNs.

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Tabitha Whitis

Self

Arlington, TX

In favor

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AZREENA THOMAS, Dr.

Self/ Physician (MD)

San Antonio, TX

Please oppose HB 2029. Increasing patient access to high quality primary care is crucial, but HB 2029 will not accomplish this goal. If passed, the bill will hand insurers, and other bureaucrats, another tool to cut corners and degrade the quality of medical care patients receive. Instead of deeming lesser trained practitioners to be on par with physicians, there are better options, that increase the supply of physicians, like bills being considered in other states to address a growing shortage of training positions for medical school graduates.

We need more well trained physicians, not more access to non physicians.

Would you be willing to see, ( or have your child see) a non-physician for your urgent medical issues?

Thank you for voting against HB 2029.

Azreena B Thomas, MD, FAES

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Jerry Willmore

Self retired engineer oil/gas industry

Plantersville, TX

Please oppose HB 2029. We need to increase patient access to high quality primary care as it beneficial to my family and friends, but HB 2029 will not accomplish this goal. If this bill passed, the it will allow insurance companies and bureaucrats to cut corners and degrade the quality of medical care my family receives.

Better options are available than putting lesser trained practitioners equal to with physicians. Other states are considering bills that increase the supply of physicians to address the growing shortage of training positions for medical school graduates.

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Barbara Kinsey

Self

Hewitt, TX

Please don't lower the standard of care for Texas citizens. This bill would allow insurers to require patients be seen by someone who is not a medical doctor. Please stand with your fellow Texans and keep our quality of care high in our great state.

Thank you for considering my comments.

Sincerely,

Barbara Kinsey

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Anne Dunkelberg, Associate Director

Every Texan

Austin, TX

Chair Klick and members of the Public Health Committee,

Every Texan (formerly CPPP) appreciates the opportunity to express support for HB 2029 by Klick. The Benedictine Sisters of Boerne, Texas, founded Every Texan (formerly CPPP) in 1985 to advance public policy solutions for expanding access to health

care.

As has been explained, this bill does not change the allowed scope of practice or prescriptive authority of Advance Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) in Texas. Instead, it removes the current requirement that APRNs must have a "delegation contract" with a physician. Some APRNs pay thousands of dollars (some over \$85,000 per year) for this relationship, despite the fact that the physician duties are minimal and retrospective. Greater access to APRN-provided primary care is especially beneficial for Texans in low-income and rural areas, and will be especially helpful for 4.6 million Texans enrolled in Medicaid (over 75% are children). For all these groups, increased access to APRNs will reduce bottlenecks in access to a primary care medical home. These bottlenecks--the lack of a primary care provider who is responsible for both your preventive and urgent care needs-- are the very thing that drive urgent care patients into Texas E.R.s.

As you are aware, ten Veteran's Administration and 31 states do not impose the delegation contract requirement on APRNs, and nearly all of the remaining states (including Texas) have suspended the requirement for our current COVID-19 Public Health Emergency.

I regret that I am unable to testify in person today. I hope that you will support HB 2029, which will be a win for all Texans.

Anne Dunkelberg, Associate Director  
Dunkelberg@everytexas.org

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Tracie Leveridge, CNM, APRN

Self

Mansfield, TX

I fully support this bill so that patients across the state have better and more affordable access to compassionate health care.

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Autumn Fuselier

Self, APRN, CNM

Salado, TX

With the recent data from the CDC and WHO among multiple other organizations citing that APRNs with independent practice who are integrated into the healthcare system improve outcomes, it is vital that we listen to these facts for the health of all Texans. The safety and even benefit of full practice authority has been demonstrated thoroughly. Half of the USA has established full practice authority. Most recently, California, Arkansas, and Virginia have made this important move. It is important that Texas follow this move and improve access to care for Texans. We should not be limiting access in times as important as these.

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Carly Womack

Self

Southlake, TX

I support this bill & hope that our legislators will honor the advanced work our PRN's have given.

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Mrudula Rao, Dr.

TSPP, AMA, TMA

San Antonio, TX

I oppose the HB 2029 Bill as it is necessary to give quality medical care to Texans and believe as the APRNs are not required to pursue same level training as licensed physicians. Therefore the APRNs are not qualified to practice without the supervision and advance their practice authority without the supervision from the licensed physicians

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Gopinath Thangada

Self; student

San Antonio, TX

I oppose this bill as there is a clear difference between the quality of care between a nurse and a physician due to the simple math that physicians go through tens of thousands of hours of more training than nurse practitioners do and physicians have to endure multiple rigorous and brutal licensing exams. Furthermore, the clause that APRNs will not be upheld to the same standards that a physician would if any malpractice occurs further proves my point of the clear difference in the quality of care that would be received by a patient.

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Clay Cockerell

Self

Dallas, TX

I am opposed to this as this will increase the opportunity for less well trained individuals to practice medicine with no supervision and harm patients. It will NOT increase access for patients to care because they will open in urban areas like they have done in other states like Florida where they have opened cosmetics clinics to inject botox and fillers. They will not move to the rural areas. If anything, they should only be allowed to do this IF they move to the rural areas. This will ultimately not improve care but worsen it.

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Ryan Hick, Dr.

Self, Dermatopathologist

Southlake, TX

I would like to register my opposition to HB 2029 relating to the licensing and authority of advanced practice registered nurses. APRNs are an important part of healthcare teams. However, on the whole permitting independent practice by APRNs will likely lead to greater patient harm and higher healthcare costs. There is insufficient evidence to show that APRNs are more likely to practice in areas where physicians are not located. In other words, arguments that APRNs actually expand access to care are not based in fact. APRNs order more tests than physicians. This is not surprising given the huge disparities in training that we see between physicians and nurse practitioners. As a pathologist who receives skin biopsy specimens from physicians and APRNs for diagnosis I see a larger number of biopsies of benign lesions from APRNs than dermatologists when there is a question of whether a skin lesion is cancer. Additionally, when I speak with APRNs more explanation is required to explain more difficult cases. There is some evidence from states where APRNs have independent practice that, at least in the field of dermatology, some of them are exclusively working in treatments of skin aging (i.e. Botox and fillers and facials, etc.) rather than expanding access to medical care for challenging medical dermatology cases. Some are also receiving online doctorate degrees in non-clinical fields and representing themselves as doctors in those states. I would hate to see similar misrepresentation come to Texas. Without physician oversight I fear that we will not see an improvement of healthcare in Texas.

---

Julie Anschutz, Mrs.

self

Allen, TX

Please oppose HB 2029.

Increasing patient access to high quality primary care is crucial, but HB 2029 will not accomplish this goal.

If passed, the bill will hand insurers, and other bureaucrats, another tool to cut corners and degrade the quality of medical care patients receive.

Allowing nurse practitioners to dispense medicine is harmful. They are not nearly as trained nor have seen the level of different types of patients to make informed and distinct decisions. Every time we have seen a nurse practitioner, it has been a failure!!

We only see a MD. They are trained with many, many hours for a reason.

PLEASE DON'T MAKE PATIENT CARE WORSE IN OUR COUNTRY WITH THIS BILL.

Thank you!!

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Melissa Eshelman, MD

Federation of Texas Psychiatry

Austin, TX

I oppose HB 2029, which allows an APRN (advanced practice registered nurse) to practice as a licensed independent practitioner, without support of a supervising physician. I am a physician (psychiatrist) who has treated the citizens of Texas, including children, adolescents, and adults. APRNs are a valuable member of a treatment team, but do not have the education, training and clinical hours of a physician, so need supervisory support.

I practiced in another state for 14 years where APRNs had independent practitioner status and I have only found 2 NPs to whom I would refer patients; I was glad to return to Texas in 2009.

The concern with allowing independent practice status is because APRNs do not have the requisite medical education and training. APRN's over prescribe. I recently saw a college student who had seen an APRN and was prescribed a medication for Bipolar disorder, a medication for depression and one for sleep. Based on the records I obtained and reviewed, the APRN did not recognize that because the student was on an oral contraceptive, she needed to be on higher than usual doses of her mood stabilizer (Bipolar medication) for effectiveness. The student did NOT need to be on 3 medications, just the mood stabilizer at the correct dosing.

I have provided training (it is called a preceptorship) to nurse practitioner students in their second year of training. They were not quite at the level of a first-year medical student when I provided training in their final semester; that is not who I want to solely treat my family members.

I believe APRNs are a valuable member of the treatment team, but not to practice independently. The citizens of Texas deserve high quality care and this bill to expand APRNs practice does not guarantee that. Please seriously consider my opposition to HB 2029. Thank you.

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ERICA EGGBRECHT, CNM, MSN, MBA

SELF- CERTIFIED NURSE-MIDWIFE

FORT WORTH, TX

I am a Certified Nurse-Midwife at Fort Worth Birthing and Wellness and Harris Hospital. As an APRN, I am writing to ask that you act to move HB2029 forward for a vote. In study after study, it has been proven that Certified Nurse-Midwives provide high-quality care with excellent outcomes, as well as increasing access to care for underserved populations. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, as well as the March of Dimes support similar legislation to relax unnecessary restrictions on Advanced Practice Nurses.

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Debra Atkisson

Self; Child Psychiatrist

Fort Worth, TX

I am writing in opposition of HB 2029 which would allow nurse practitioners to practice medicine without the education and training necessary to ensure safety to the Texas public. On a personal note - I have aided in teaching nurse practitioners and have supervised them. I have found that when a physician and a nurse practitioner work closely together as a team that effective care can occur. However - I am very aware that the training is not equivalent to a physician. I have caught many errors, some that would have caused injury to a child, when working with nurse practitioners. Those nurse practitioners who know what they don't know and discuss with their supervising physician are the best nurse practitioners. Others have not asked for help - and in some cases death have occurred. One such example is a college student who died after being treated inappropriately in an emergency department in Oklahoma; that case was determined to be malpractice and the family was awarded several million dollars. The way for our health care needs to be solved does not lie with the legislature giving a medical privilege to people not appropriately trained. Please place the safety of Texans first!

---

Laura Stone

Children's Health & UT Southwestern

Dallas, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. As a licensed physician, I know that the care patients receive from APRNs is substandard and can be dangerous. Without a physician overseeing the care of complex patients, more errors will surely occur.

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Amy Davis

Self

Mansfield, TX

I support this bill!!

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Kathleen Elmer, Dr.

Self

San Antonio, TX

I strongly oppose granting "advanced" NPs independent practice. NPs do not have nearly the education and training as a physician and are not capable of diagnosing and treating patients to the same degree as a physician. Even conditions that appear minor can have more serious associations. Patients in the lay public are not aware of the differences in education and assume anyone with a white coat and title is competent to the same degree. It might be cheaper and provide greater accessibility but it's not good medicine and I guarantee will need to deficits in care. Compare the training of an advanced NP with that of a dermatologist which I am. Who would you take your child or close family member to?

---

Frank Saporito, MD

self, Physician

Dallas, TX

Rep. Klick is proposing the independent practice of Advanced Practice Register Nurses (APRN).

I am a physician board-certified in dermatology whose practice is restricted to the surgical treatment of skin cancers. I prescribe

antibiotics and occasionally pain medicine. The independent practice of an APRN would not affect my practice. There is no personal conflict to bias my advice to the legislature. Not only did I take a four-month course in pharmacology (– one of the toughest in medical school), I spent two years of clinical rotations and four years of post-graduate education learning to diagnose disease and prescribe therapy (medications).

APRNs can prescribe some very safe medications. And some very dangerous medications would require significant relevant training and experience to prescribe safely. And there are unique health situations where a very safe medication under typical situations would be very dangerous and possibly fatal if prescribed. Rep. Klick's proposed bill does not delineate safe medications and circumstances for an APRN to have an independent practice because it would require a medical education and post-graduate training to define those circumstances.

I can only conclude that Rep. Klick is proposing her legislation out of ignorance. I doubt that Rep. Klick can provide a compelling argument for her proposed bill. As an analogy, with sufficient training, someone can learn to fly a Cessna 172 (small propeller airplane). And that Cessna pilot could fly an airliner straight and level. But would you want the Cessna 172 pilot landing the airliner in bad weather, at night, on an icy runway? I hope I did not just give Rep. Klick an idea for her next proposed bill.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me on my cell phone at (214) 924-2787.

Sincerely,  
Frank Saporito, MD  
Dallas Skin Cancer Center.

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Sonali Hanson  
Self - physician (MD)  
Houston, TX

I am a physician writing to express my strong opposition to HB 2029 and any other bill that would allow advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) to engage in the practice of medicine. Such a change would neither expand access to health care nor be safe for the people of Texas if APRNs are given independent practice authority or are allowed to diagnose or prescribe without collaboration with a physician.

Compare the number of patient-care hours required to become a physician: Physicians like me receive 12,000 to 16,000 hours of training through medical school and residency. APRNs, however, have just 500 to 720 hours of patient-care hours in their training.

Physicians and nurses worked together in 2013 to devise a landmark state law that improved collaboration and supervision. I support improvements to that team-based approach and to exploring other ways to improve access to care, especially in underserved areas.

While independent APRNs might be paid less for an office visit than physicians, they tend to order more expensive tests and diagnostic scans, and they are quicker to refer patients to specialists - all of which drives up the cost of care. I have seen too many patients that were mismanaged by APRNs, to the detriment of the patient and to the health care system in general, driving down patient well-being and driving up health care costs not only due to the factors mentioned above but because patients end up seeking additional care after they have been mismanaged by an inappropriately supervised APRN and need further care to make them better.

Physicians strongly support team-based care, but if people want to practice medicine, they should go to medical school. Thank you for your consideration.

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Kelly Wilmas, Dr.  
self - Physician  
Houston, TX



I am a physician at MD Anderson Cancer Center who lives in your district, writing to express my strong opposition to two bills that would expand the scope of practice for nonphysician practitioners and allow the unsupervised practice of medicine.

House Bill 2029 by Representative Klick would allow advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) to independently prescribe dangerous drugs and controlled substances (up to Schedule III with some Schedule II privileges in inpatient facilities and hospice), order and interpret diagnostic testing, and prescribe durable medical equipment and devices – all without physician supervision.

Senate Bill 993 by Senator Hancock would allow optometrists to perform a variety of eye surgeries and allow the Texas Optometry Board to have sole authority to regulate optometrists and determine their scope of practice.

SB 993 will also allow optometrists to order and interpret diagnostic tests and prescribe Schedule II-V controlled substances without going to medical school.

Optometrists graduate from four years of study at optometry school, studying optics, vision sciences, sensory processing, and practice management – not medicine – followed by 1,910 clinical patient care hours in an optometric setting. They don't have the training to handle patient complications if and when they occur.

Clinical patient care training is fewer hours than one year of full-time work.

Don't legislate who gets to be physicians – medical school education and training should determine that.

Physician training is very different from that of nonphysician practitioners. A primary care physician completes between 12,000 and 16,000 hours of competency-based, clinical training, compared with ONLY 500 to 720 hours for APRNs.

APRNs can already practice at the top of their license as a nurse. And APRNs do not pay physicians to practice nursing. Delegation agreements with physicians are required only if APRNs want to prescribe medication, and prescribing medication is by law the practice of medicine.

93% of APRNs practice in urban areas, with the vast majority employed by physicians, health systems, federally qualified health clinics, local health departments, and retail health clinics.

Physicians' training and education uniquely qualify them to determine if a medical act can be safely delegated to an APRN acting under the physician's supervision. This is why physician-led team care is integral to improving access to and coordination of quality patient care.

There are other solutions to improving access to care in Texas: increasing funding for residency slots for graduating medical students; improving Medicaid payments to physicians; and expanding telemedicine services.

Thank you for your consideration.

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Kelly Conner

Self

Katy, TX

Please oppose HB 2029. I am a Texas Physician. Texans deserve quality healthcare offered by excellent physicians and physician supervised healthcare providers (our colleagues the NPs and PAs). A team approach works best! Allowing the unsupervised practice of medicine (cutting the physician out of the supervisory role) is dangerous and people will be harmed. The only way to fix a physician shortage is by making more physicians! One clear way to fix the physician shortage is to allow students who have completed medical school (MD or DO) to have increased opportunities to train in residency positions which have been cut off from growth since the 90s. Residency is where these students add another 10-15,000 hours of training to their already sturdy 4,000-5,000 hours of hands-on training and didactics! 20,000 hours of training over many years, seeing the many complexities of what ails the human body, cannot be replaced with a few hundred hours.

I value the team approach but please don't take away the safety net of supervision of that team by the highest trained professional in medicine (MDs and DOs). I'm a Texan and I want physician led care for myself and my loved ones. Will I have that choice?

---

Paige Seeker, MD

UT Health San Antonio

San Antonio, TX

As a physician, it is incredibly concerning that patients could be independently treated by a nurse practitioner without physician supervision. This is a patient safety issue. Physicians complete between 12,000 and 16,000 hands-on full-time clinical training hours under direct supervision of an attending physician before being deemed safe to practice independently, whereas nurse practitioners complete only between 500-720 hours (some of which are only shadowing). NPs are already able to practice under the guidance of a physician, and this is for patient health and safety. NP's are NOT more likely to practice in rural or underserved areas as their lobby often suggests and they can already do this with physician supervision. Do not allow our physician and nurse shortage to worsen or to put patients in danger by allowing inexperienced practitioners to put patient lives at risk.

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Coleen Madigan, M.D., F.A.C.P., Dr

self, Physician

Corpus Christi, TX

Members of the Texas House Committee on Public Health:

HB 2029, legislation that hands unsupervised practice authority to nurse practitioners, is to be heard by the Texas House Committee on Public Health on March 24, 2021. I am very concerned/adamantly opposed to nurse practitioners being allowed to practice medicine unsupervised. A physician for over 30 years, I have worked with numerous nurse practitioners.

Reasons to not allow this action: The most important is patient well-being. When a patient is put in the hands of someone with limited training the patient is the one to suffer untoward effects and the allied health person, i.e. a nurse practitioner, practice medicine, serious mistakes can be made: missed diagnoses/prescribing errors. They need physician supervision.

2. Having assisted nurse practitioner faculty in their clinical training, their curriculum focused on preventative medicine, not diagnostic/treatment medicine. They are learning the latter, by chance, while given actual patients to see.

3. Many nurse practitioners need more not less supervision. In a case of mine, after having a serious issue with a nurse practitioner, I contacted the Texas Medical Board to find out her supervising physician. I discovered they are not 'licensed' via the Texas Medical Board but through the Texas Nursing Board. Contacting the latter entity, I was told then, the nursing board did not keep record of the supervising physician. I asked how the nursing board knew they were adequately supervised and was told they did not require that.

4. Nurse practitioners with whom I have worked, hired via corporations, are being empowered to practice without adequate supervision. I witnessed avoidable incidences of mistakes. Having experience in teaching resident physicians in training, I reiterated to them "they don't know what they don't know". That is why physicians go through such extensive training; to teach them how to examine, identify disease and manage it. Training doctors have extensive supervision because of the scope of Medicine/Disease; they should not act on limited information without consulting a faculty Doctor. Nurse practitioners have far less years of intense training and "do not know, what they do not know" and act on limited education.

5. Thinking that allied health fill a physician shortage, at what cost if they do not have the extensive training to identify and manage significant disease? Initially paid less, it was thought they would reduce the cost of medicine, but for-profit medical care corporations are attracting them with escalating higher salaries to bring in more patient business. Also, much of the costs of medical care lie in the laboratory/radiologic testing, nurse practitioners often order more testing because of limited training to diagnose without high dollar tests, unless a supervising physician agrees.

For patient safety, cost & ethical provision of patient care, I request you vote  
NO on HB 2029. Thank you

C Madigan

Megan Craddock, MD

Self, physician

Humble, TX

There is a SIGNIFICANT gap in educational and training between physicians & advanced practice nurses. Physicians have years of training beyond what is required of APRNs. Physicians log thousands more clinical hours in residency to prepare to practice independently. Education models of APRNs are NOT standardized. Many APRNs are receiving education online where programs lack standardized clinical requirements.

Lack of standardized education and lack of transparency decreases safety.

Studies show NPs:

- Often overprescribe medications.
- Schedule unnecessary laboratory and diagnostic tests.
- Have higher rates of inaccurate diagnosis of skin biopsies.
- Have higher rates of inappropriate referrals.

A lack of transparency is harming patients:

- An AMA study reported that 39% of patients erroneously believe that a Doctor of Nursing Practice is a medical doctor.
- Patients have undue expectations regarding their treatment and outcome due to the lack of transparency.

There is NO evidence to suggest that allowing APRNs to independently practice would increase access to care.

- Studies show that NPs DO NOT go to rural areas in any greater numbers than physicians.
- Primary care physicians are the most likely healthcare professionals to practice in rural and underserved areas.
- Collaboration requirements do not prevent NPs from currently practicing in rural and underserved areas.

#### INCREASE IN COSTS & LIABILITY

- Allowing nurse practitioners to practice independently has resulted in higher insurance rate – meaning patients pay more, insurers pay more, government programs pay more, and employers pay more.
- Independently-practicing APRNs do not fall under the same liability standards as physicians – reducing the ability for a patient to recover damages due to an adverse event decrease.

#### COORDINATION BETWEEN DOCTOR & APRN IS ERODED

- Current collaboration rules allow both professions to function at the top of their training
- Independent practice erodes coordination – APRNs lose the ability to consult with physicians on complex cases.

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Michael Seykora

Self

Arlington, TX

Please vote against this bill. I would not want to be seen by a nurse practitioner that was not supervised by a board certified physician. There is no way the nurse practitioners have as much schooling or experience as a MD or a DO plain and simple.  
Mike Seykora

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Ronald Plott, Dr.

self

Southlake, TX

Without the supervision of experienced and well trained physicians, APRN are not able to provide the quality of care that our patients need. Don't allow the decay of medical care quality that has been seen in other states that have allowed APRNs to

practice without supervision to occur in Texas.

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Brent Spencer, Dr.

Self - Dermatologist

Fairview, TX

I strongly urge the committee members to oppose HB 2029, relating to the licensing and authority of advanced practice registered nurses. Preserving the safety of the citizens of Texas should be a key priority of any piece of legislation. HB 2029 does not promote this and would force Texans to receive substandard medical care. The current team-based model to health care delivery in Texas is working, and giving independent, unsupervised practice to APRNs will place unnecessary risks upon our great state. The statistics are clear - physicians receive vastly more training than APRNs, over 15,000 hours more to be precise. Not only is the quantity of this training higher, but the quality is as well – physicians have onsite, supervised learning throughout medical school, internship, residency, and fellowship; APRNs can get a degree online with little to no in-person learning.

Furthermore, there is plenty of evidence showing that APRNs with independent practice will be a fiscally irresponsible decision to the tax payers of Texas by actually increasing health care costs. Studies have shown that APRNs often overprescribe medications. Furthermore, in my field of dermatology, studies have shown APRNs to perform excessive biopsies and order unnecessary diagnostic tests. Allowing APRNs to practice independently has resulted in higher insurance rates – meaning patients pay more, insurers pay more, government programs pay more, and employers pay more. In the current era of cost containment in medicine, it is poor policy to give independent practice to practitioners whom will cost the healthcare system more.

One of the arguments in support of this legislation is that it will increase access to rural care for Texans. In every state that currently has independent practice for APRNs, this argument has been proven false. Distribution of nurse practitioners in these states mirrors that of physicians and favors urban areas. Furthermore, the current collaboration agreement system does NOT prevent APRNs from practicing in rural / underserved areas. If APRNs are not practicing in rural areas currently, there is no reason to believe that passage of HB 2029 will increase healthcare access in these areas.

Would you let a flight attendant fly jets rather than a pilot? Do we allow paralegals to practice law independently? Flight attendants and paralegals have extremely vital roles in their respective fields, but training matters, which is why pilots and attorneys are the leaders in their fields. Medicine is no different. There are numerous instances where substandard care by APRNs have caused significant harm to patients for routine, daily diagnoses that physicians can safely manage. Unfortunately, independently-practicing APRNs do not fall under the same liability standards as physicians – reducing the ability for a patient to recover damages due to an adverse event.

In closing, I again ask the committee to oppose HB 2029 for the safety of your constituents.

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Sanea Almas

self

Plano, TX

Please oppose HB 2029. Increasing patient access to high quality primary care is crucial, but HB 2029 will not accomplish this goal. If passed, the bill will hand insurers, and other bureaucrats, another tool to cut corners and degrade the quality of medical care patients receive. Instead of deeming lesser trained practitioners to be on par with physicians, there are better options, that increase the supply of physicians, like bills being considered in other states to address a growing shortage of training positions for medical school graduates.

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Leigha Sharp

Self/physician

Austin, TX

I strongly oppose this bill. A vote against this bill is a vote to protect you and your family's health and precious life in our healthcare system. It is not safe for APRNs to practice independently for many reasons. I was a nurse before becoming a physician. I changed my career as a physician so that I could have complete autonomy. There are HUGE differences between an APRN and a physician, and the fact that APRNs must practice under supervision is an important and significant. The supervision is in place for the protection of patients safety! There is a significant gap in education between APRNs and physicians. Physicians have thousands of hours which adds up to YEARS of more standardized clinical training than APRNs. The experience that physicians bring to patient care cannot be replaced by APRNs. APRNs need supervision. Patient safety is compromised as studies show APRNs over prescribe medications, obtain more unnecessary diagnostic and therapeutic testing, and higher rates of inappropriate referrals which all drive up the cost of healthcare. The increased healthcare costs puts a financial burden on patients, insurers, government and employers. We need well trained and expert physicians taking care of our vulnerable populations.

APRNs do not increase access to care in underserved populations, in fact, studies have shown that physicians are more likely to enter underserved areas to improve access to care. There is a nursing shortage and we need more nurses, but we do not need more APRNs.

Please protect our families and protect our autonomy as physicians. APRNs require supervision and should not practice independently.

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Carolee Goodyear

Self

San Antonio, TX

The nurses should have some type of accountability over them with only 1500 clinical hours. Otherwise, require a minimum of 15,000-20,000 clinical hours for license similar to physician requirements. If registered nurses want to practice on their own and write prescriptions without supervision, then much more training would be needed. This is not the time to deregulate licensing regulations when more telemedicine is available.

Please oppose this authority of nurses to practice without supervision until more experienced clinician learning can be required and accountability standards for them is also raised.

Thank you,

From a concerned cancer patient

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Praveen Thangada, MD

TMA

San Antonio, TX

Do not have adequate training

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Kehinde Ogunmakin, MD

Self - Dermatologist

Houston, TX

I believe giving APRNs autonomy to practice medicine independently is harmful to patients. As a physician, it is my responsibility to provide excellent quality of care to patients based on advanced knowledge and training. Unfortunately, APRNs do not have the depth of knowledge required to safely manage patients independently. Unfortunately, I have had some patients who were poorly managed by mid level providers that had adverse outcomes due to inability to recognize and diagnose skin cancers. In these cases, the proper diagnoses would have been easily recognized by a dermatologist, and early treatment would

have been provided to the patients. I stand firmly against granting APRNs the ability to practice independently. It would be a disservice to all patients if this bill is passed.

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Lorena Bowen  
Quality Healthcare  
San Antonio, TX

Disagree with this bill. Experience and education level are not the same as a doctor. This will give NP same authority with less liability.

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DiAnne Davis, Dr  
Self-Physician  
Dallas, TX

Please oppose this bill

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Jason Jones, Dr  
Self, Physician  
Amarillo, TX

APRN have a significant training gap compared to physicians. Hours spent in clinical training prior to the ability to practice independently would be in the magnitude of 10 fold less hours for advanced practice nurses. Furthermore their own education is not standardized. This directly leads to a decrease in patient safety. Research shows that APRNs have a far higher rate of over prescribing medications, over ordering tests and procedures and inappropriate referrals. I believe this bill to be a disservice to the Texas medical community and our population at large.

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Dr Michael Dunnigan, DO  
US Dermatology Partners. 7325  
Rockwall, TX

I am strongly opposed to this bill. This only further diluted the practice of health care with poorly trained personnel masquerading as physicians. They are taken advantage of and offered jobs by greedy corporate or physicians building an empire with medicine and are not serving the best interests of patients seeking honest care

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Olutola Adetona MD MPH, Dr  
Practical Approach Pediatrics  
San Antonio, TX

Quality of care and scope of training

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Ahmad Qawasmi, Dr.  
self, Pediatrician  
Killeen, TX

Hi,

I am drafting this letter to express strong opposition to the proposed bill. Most physicians have worked closely with nurse practitioners. Although we appreciate their work and that they have become an integral part of our practices, allowing them to work independently is of grave consequences and can be dangerous. Some of the NPs don't have experience at all, many of them have insufficient experience and often refer to physicians for answers. I add my voice to all those physicians opposing this.

thank you

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Janki Patel, Dr

Self, Physician

Houston, TX

As a constituent who is a physician practicing in this area taking care of children with disabilities, I am representing myself in order to urge you to vote against House Bill 2029. This bill would allow for APRNs to practice independently in any subspecialties and prescribe medications that are harmful and require years of experience to master. As a physician I value the experience I have gained with my years of clinical training and working with children I am fearful that allowing APRNs to practice solely would put our children at harm. This bill would allow APRNs which essentially have the nursing background to interpret test results and prescribe medications such as those in schedule II that can be harmful to patients. I urge you as someone who works with children with disabilities and values the clinic acumen that accompanies the medical decision-making that you oppose this bill.

---

Karen Baker

Self

Dallas, TX

Please do not allow this to pass. I lost my own mother when a qualified nurse misdiagnosed my mother. 14 months later, my mother passed away from skin cancer. She breathed her last breath on August 12, 2017. Sherryl McComb also lost her battle with cancer after being misdiagnosed by an "advanced practice registered nurse." She passed away in 2016. Please no. No, no, no. It is wrong on so many levels.

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Jesse Parr, MD

self pediatrician

College Station, TX

I am a pediatrician and I have employed at least one Pediatric Nurse Practitioner for the past 20+ years and I know of their value. However, they are not MDs or DOs. Their training is not as extensive. They do certain things better than physicians, such as follow protocols for evidence based medicine, and they can certainly extend physicians, but that is what they should remain-Physician Extenders, and not in independent practice. Primary care medicine is under attack from all sides and is in danger of losing viability due to erosion to geographically distant telemedicine, insurance company telemed providers, urgent cares, and other convenience medicine. Please protect the most valuable member of the health care team-the primary care physician, by not passing this bill to allow independent practice by those who are not equally trained, but see themselves as equals, despite not having the same training. Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) such as Nurse Practitioners, have a valuable role as physician extenders but healthcare does not need independently practicing APRNs. This will result in less access to primary care-not more. There are certain things which they do as well as primary care physicians, but not all, and their independent practice will jeopardize the availability of access to the care they are not capable of doing as well as physicians.

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Jessica Czuba

Texas Pediatric Society

Austin, TX

This bill will hurt patients with suboptimal care leading to further health disparities and rising cost of healthcare. This bill is dangerous to the citizens of Texas.

This is important: HB 2029/SB 915 would change the Nursing Practice Act to allow APRNs (nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists, and clinical nurse specialists) to independently:

Prescribe dangerous drugs and controlled substances (up to Schedule III with some Schedule II privileges in inpatient facilities and hospice),

Order and interpret diagnostic testing, and?

Prescribe medical devices and durable medical equipment.

Physicians and the Medical Practice Act recognize prescribing and diagnosing as the practice of medicine. Organized medicine opposes HB 2029/SB 915 because:

APRNs are currently free to practice independently and to the top of their license – as a nurse, which is what they are. The Nursing Practice Act does not allow nurses to independently prescribe medication, as defined by Occupations Code, Title 3, Subtitle E, Chapter 301, Subchapter A, Section 301.002(2): Nursing can screen under standing orders and prescribe therapeutic or corrective measures when delegated by a physician. HB 2029/ SB 915 would allow independent APRNs to practice medicine. ? All members of the health care team are important, but the team must be physician-led as health care practitioners are not interchangeable. All physicians have by a significant order of magnitude more education and clinical training than APRNs. At a minimum, physicians have between 10,000 and 15,000 hours of clinical training, whereas APRNs have between 500 and 720 hours of self- or minimally proctored clinical training hours. ?

In states where APRNs have been granted independent prescribing and diagnosing authority, a variety of guardrails guide the transition to practice: minimum hours or years of close supervision by a physician; oversight by the state board of medicine; required liability coverage; requirements to self- identify to patients as a nurse, not a physician; and ongoing collaboration and consultation, to name a few. Patient safety and protection are paramount. ?

If collaborative, prescriptive, or supervisory agreements with physicians are burdensome, unworkable, impractical, or excessively expensive, then let's fix SB 406 from the 2013 legislative session, not throw it out completely. ?

Passage of HB 2029/SB 915 will not increase access to care in rural or border settings, as claimed. 93% of APRNs already practice in urban areas, with the vast majority employed by physicians, health systems, federally qualified health clinics, local health departments, and retail health clinics. ?

If the state legislature changes the law and grants APRNs the authority to independently prescribe and diagnose, which is currently specially prohibited by the Nursing Practice Act, APRNs should be regulated by the Texas Medical Board along with physicians.

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Alina Sholar, M.D.

Serenity Medical Centers

Austin, TX

Unsupervised non-physician providers put patients at risk and worsen the bedside nursing shortage. Entities replacing physicians with NPs and PAs argue they have been forced to hire these midlevels due to a physician shortage, but the real truth is that physicians are being systematically fired and replaced by lesser-qualified providers on the basis of profit alone, without regard to patient safety.

Lack of informed consent, social injustice. As the right of informed consent, all patients deserve to be informed that they are being treated by a non-physician practitioner. However, with more doctoral programs for midlevel providers, patients do not know who is a medical doctor and who isn't. There are an est 80 mill people in the U.S. who have limited health literacy, which is already linked to poorer outcomes made worse by a lack of informed consent. Patients are vulnerable as they unsuspectingly place trust in a non-physician. With the increasing replacement of physicians by non-physician practitioners, some of the most vulnerable patients are losing the opportunity see a physician or may be unaware that the caregiver is not a physician at all. Rural



health clinics treating socioeconomically disadvantaged patients are mandated by federal law to employ at least one non-physician practitioner- either nurse practitioner or physician assistant. This is very much a matter of social injustice.

Patient harm. Although lobbyists claim that studies show that NPs show comparable care to physicians they, first, fail to acknowledge that the research has been done with supervised NPs. The truth is that there are no studies that show nurse practitioner safety and efficacy when practicing independently. Second, the studies they reference have been of low quality, following healthy patients over very short time frames (only two weeks for the most often-cited study). These studies are not appropriate to demonstrate whether nurse practitioners, specifically those practicing independently, can safely, efficiently, and effectively care for patients over the course of a lifetime in a primary care. In fact, many studies have revealed concerning gaps in the quality of care of midlevel practitioners, including inappropriate referrals to specialists, increased costly diagnostic imaging, increased number of prescriptions, specifically with regard to increased antibiotic prescribing and higher levels of opioid prescribing.

A bedside nursing shortage made worse. In 2019, 30,000 nurses left their role at the bedside advocating for patients to pursue becoming an NP. A February 2020 study found that nurse practitioner training has reduced the number of registered nurses by another 80,000 nationwide.

It is in the public's best interest to have professional authority matched by professional capability, as evidenced by equivalent training, equivalent supervised experience, and evaluation by validated instruments. Our patients deserve better than HB 2029

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Kathryn Wright

Self physician

Kingwood, TX

I am a physician who lives in the Houston area. I greatly appreciate my nursing colleagues and am also hesitant to give so much independent practice when the training is so much different from that of physicians. I fear it would be dangerous for the safety of our patients to expand their practice without change in the amount of training or requirements met first.

When I was training as a doctor, I worked with a fabulous Nurse Practitioner in the neonatal icu who had worked in the field for over 20 years. I asked for their assistance reviewing X-rays on a premature infant and they reassured me everything was normal. In the morning when the neonatologist saw the X-ray, the baby had signs of necrotizing enterocolitis on that X-ray that were missed, causing a delay of treatment for hours. I fear that if there was an expansion in scope of practice for nurse practitioners without physician oversight that it would increase risk of harm for our patients.

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Morganne Mathew, MD

Self, physician

The Woodlands, TX

My personal experience in seeing patients that have previously been cared for in clinics run exclusively by NP's without physician supervision has been grim. A baby who was being monitored for jaundice was referred to us for high bilirubin levels. By the time of the call, the levels had already exceeded limits that would require treatment or admission. At his follow up after hospitalization it was noted that his head circumference was rapidly increasing, a detail that was apparently overlooked during his bilirubin checks, and he was now having new abnormal eye movements. We initiated transfer to a specialty hospital. My staff instructed the NP practice on how to use a Bili tool AP. Importantly, the family was not aware that their caregiver was an NP practicing without MD supervision. Each member of a medical team is important, but we are NOT interchangeable! It is difficult to see the whole forest when you are focused on one tree and it is a physicians extensive training and experience that helps to minimize these oversights. In my suburban location, the NP run clinic is next to multiple other options for clinics run by MDs accepting the same insurances. It is NOT providing greater access to care, but it is lowering potential quality of care.

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Sean Kissinger, Mr.

self, student and home maker

Arlington, TX

It is critical to patient safety, transparency and fiscally responsible delivery of patient care that advanced practice registered nurses be required to have physician supervision.

Confusion already exists among many patients who see APRNs as they often identify themselves as doctor given their doctor of nursing practice degree. This is misleading to even the savviest of patients who trust their provider's identification at face value and equate the title of "doctor" with "physician" in a health care setting. Giving independent practice rights to APRNs will only increase confusion. Many patients will not understand they are seeing a mid-level provider and not a physician. This is a violation of their fundamental patient right to give informed consent for care.

Expanding the scope of practice for advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) leads to higher costs and reduced safety for patients who are better served by an integrated care team led by a physician whose education and training requirements far exceeds those of other health professionals.

Physicians complete four years of medical school and then gain 10,000 to 16,000 hours of clinical experience during three to seven years of residency training. In comparison, NPs complete two to three years of graduate-level education and 500 to 720 hours of clinical training. It is also more than just the vast difference in hours of education and training there is also significant difference in rigor and standardization between medical school and residency and nurse practitioner programs.

Research also shows that independently practicing APRNs raise health care costs by ordering more diagnostic images and prescribing more antibiotics and opioids than physicians. Expanding the scope of practice of APRNs will take a real toll on health care costs as well as threaten the health and safety of patients. These added costs and patient safety concerns will place a strain on the health care system, on patients and on their families.

It is often argued that increasing APRN scope of practice can increase access to care, however this is categorically false. The AMA Health Workforce Mapper shows that non-physician providers, such as NPs, are more likely to practice in the same geographic locations as physicians—even in states that allow NPs to practice independently.

Patients deserve care led by physicians—the most highly educated, trained and skilled health professionals. Please defend the practice of medicine against scope-of-practice expansions that threaten patient safety by voting NO to increase the scope of practice for APRNs.

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Janaki Paskaradevan, Dr.

Self

Houston, TX

This is important: As a physician, I spent 4 years in undergraduate school, 4 years in medical school, 3 years training as a general pediatrician, and am now finishing 3 years training to be a sub specialist. These years are supervised with graduated autonomy to ensure adequate training and safety for patient care. APRNs do not have to do any training beyond the initial degree they earn, which is shorter than medical school. If you would not let an intern (someone in their first year out fo medical school) practice independently, then an APRN should not be able to. It is not safe for patient care and could lead to serious errors due to lack of training. I regularly work with APRNs, who are very capable after many years of training within their SPECIFIC area of work - but they still do not have the full breadth of training and detailed knowledge that a physician has. A physician led health care tram is the safest for patients.

HB 2029/SB 915 would change the Nursing Practice Act to allow APRNs (nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists, and clinical nurse specialists) to independently:

Prescribe dangerous drugs and controlled substances (up to Schedule III with some Schedule II privileges in inpatient facilities and hospice),

Order and interpret diagnostic testing, and?

Prescribe medical devices and durable medical equipment.

Please do not approve this bill. Allowing full independent practice of APRNs is not safe.

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Lilly Zhang

Self, Medical Student

San Antonio, TX

HB 2029/SB 915 would change the Nursing Practice Act to allow APRNs (nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists, and clinical nurse specialists) to independently prescribe dangerous drugs and controlled substances (up to Schedule III with some Schedule II privileges in inpatient facilities and hospice), order and interpret diagnostic testing, and prescribe medical devices and durable medical equipment.

I, along with the Texas Medical Associations and medical specialty societies, oppose HB 2029/SB 915 because:

(1) Physician-led, team-based care ensures high quality, cost effective care by minimizing duplication and lapses in patient care. This comprehensive team-based approach recognizes the skills all providers bring to patient care, while ensuring that the right professional is providing the right care in a timely manner, under the direction and coordination of the physician.

(2) All members of the health care team are important, but the team must be physician-led as health care practitioners are not interchangeable. All physicians have by a significant order of magnitude more education and clinical training than APRNs. At a minimum, physicians have between 10,000 and 15,000 hours of clinical training, whereas APRNs have between 500 and 720 hours of self- or minimally proctored clinical training hours. Additionally, there are no national standards for APRN training, and students arrange for post-program clinical training on their own, which leads to even further uneven, substandard training.

(3) In states where APRNs have been granted independent prescribing and diagnosing authority, a variety of guardrails guide the transition to practice, such as: minimum hours or years of close supervision by a physician; oversight by the state board of medicine; required liability coverage; requirements to self-identify to patients as a nurse, not a physician; and ongoing collaboration and consultation. If this is too time-consuming or burdensome, then we can look to modify SB 406 from the 2013 legislative session instead.

(4) Passage of HB 2029/SB 915 will not increase access to care in rural or border settings, as claimed. 93% of APRNs already practice in urban areas, with the vast majority employed by physicians, health systems, federally qualified health clinics, local health departments, and retail health clinics. Studies on geographic distribution of nurse practitioners have shown that independent practice

authority is not associated with higher rates of nurse practitioners working in rural areas. Expanded independence is not associated with greater density of nurse practitioners in the state more generally either.

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Mark McShane, Dr.

Self - physician

Houston, TX

HB 2029/SB 915 would change the Nursing Practice Act to allow APRNs (nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists, and clinical nurse specialists) to independently:

--Prescribe dangerous drugs and controlled substances (up to Schedule III with some Schedule II privileges in inpatient facilities and hospice),

--Order and interpret diagnostic testing, and?

--Prescribe medical devices and durable medical equipment.

Myself, and many other physicians, oppose HB 2029/SB 915 because:

APRNs are currently free to practice independently and to the top of their license – as a NURSE, which is the role for which they are trained. The Nursing Practice Act does NOT allow nurses to independently prescribe medication, as defined by Occupations Code, Title 3, Subtitle E, Chapter 301, Subchapter A, Section 301.002(2): Nursing can screen under standing orders and prescribe therapeutic or corrective measures when delegated by a physician. However, HB 2029/ SB 915 would allow independent APRNs to practice medicine. ?

All members of the health care team are important, but the team must be physician-led as HEALTH CARE PRACTITIONERS ARE NOT INTERCHANGEABLE. All physicians have by a significant order of magnitude more education and clinical training than APRNs. At a minimum, physicians have between 10,000 and 15,000 hours of clinical training, whereas APRNs have

between 500 and 720 hours of self- or minimally-proctored clinical training hours. ?

In states where APRNs have been granted independent prescribing and diagnosing authority, a variety of guardrails guide the transition to practice: minimum hours or years of close supervision by a physician; oversight by the state board of medicine; required liability coverage; requirements to self- identify to patients as a nurse, not a physician; and ongoing collaboration and consultation, to name a few. Patient safety and protection are paramount. ?

If enough APRNs feel that supervisory agreements with physicians are burdensome, impractical, or excessively expensive, then we need to fix SB 406 from the 2013 legislative session, not throw it out completely. ?

Passage of HB 2029/SB 915 would NOT increase access to care in rural or border settings, as claimed. 93% of APRNs already practice in URBAN areas, with? the vast majority employed by physicians, health systems, federally qualified health clinics, local health departments, and retail health clinics. ?

If the state legislature changes the law and grants APRNs the authority to independently prescribe and diagnose, which is currently specially prohibited by the Nursing Practice Act, APRNs should be regulated by the Texas Medical Board along with physicians.

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Evan Rogler, Dr.

self, physician

Corpus Christi, TX

I fear that the proposed changes to the scope of practice of APRN's will cause significant harm to the citizen's of Texas. The medical training required to adequately care for another human being, is substantial, and not required of those who hold that position. MD/DO's the only trained medical professionals that should be given such authority and great responsibility. I hope you will speak up against this bill, and represent the people of Texas, and not the special interests groups who are hoping to allow undertrained professionals to care for our children, parents, and grandparents without appropriate supervision.

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Laura Calvo, Dr.

Self, pediatric resident physician

Corpus Christi, TX

Please vote "NO" on HB 2029. We need to ensure safe and quality patient care to all Texans, and that includes each part of the patient care team practicing within their scope. APRNs did not attend medical school and do not have the same level of training as physicians, who should always be the leader of patient care teams. Allowing APRNs to practice unsupervised by a medical doctor would be very dangerous, and beyond what their training entails. Please keep Texans safe by voting "NO" on HB 2029.

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Mark Wallis

Wallis Dermatology Associates

Longview, TX

There is a SIGNIFICANT gap in educational and training between physicians & advanced practice nurses.

- Physicians have years of training beyond what is required of APRNS.
- Physicians log thousands more clinical hours in residency to prepare to practice independently.

Education models of APRNs are NOT standardized

&

Many APRNs are receiving education online where programs lack standardized clinical requirements.

As a constituent physician of 35 years who employs and supervises nurse practitioners, I am strongly opposed to this bill which would reduce patient safety for our families without adding to Texas medical care and practice. Please contact me if you have questions, Mark Wallis, MD, FAAD

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Oghogho Igbinoba, MD

Self. Resident physician

Corpus Christi, TX

Advanced practice registered nurses do not have the training that a provider requires to undergo independent practice. Their training and curriculum do not afford them that capability. There is a reason that physicians undergo such extensive and rigorous training for years and are subsequently required to take multiple examinations focused on a single specialty. All of this is done to protect the sanctity of human life. The dangers with allowing advanced practice registered nurses to have full independent and unrestricted practice is synonymous with patient harm.

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Jennifer Hutchison, Doctor

Self/Physician

Corpus Christi, TX

APNP's are a great asset to the medical community, however do not have the training or the expertise practice independently.

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Debaroti Addy, MD

Treehouse Pediatrics

Round Rock, TX

Please do not allow physicians to be excluded from the important work of supervising advanced practice registered nurses. We have thousands of hours of more training and clinical experience (12-16k hours vs 500-700 hours) Advanced medical practices must be guided by MDs not registered nurses.

Proponents of HB2029 suggest that they would improve access to care by making APRN's more independent. However 93% of APRN's practice in urban areas. The needs in rural Texas will not improve. It is crucial that we encourage physicians to practice in all areas both rural and urban in Texas.

APRN's are also more likely to order expensive tests and diagnostic scans as well as refer to specialist more quickly than primary care physicians who have more expertise and knowledge in treating complex conditions.

An optometrist who has never been trained in any form of eye surgery should never be allowed to start performing surgery without appropriate training. The same goes for a psychologist who has never been trained in prescribing serious medication such as antidepressants and anti-anxiety medication.

Texas voters are clear- 71% of them agree that it is important for physician to be involved in diagnosis and treatment decisions-even in a supervising role.

Please consider the safety of all Texans when voting against HB2029. The safest practice in medicine is to have care lead and directed by the most experienced providers.

Thank you,

Debaroti Addy, MD

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Joel Smith, Dr.

Self - Physician

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

This is important: HB 2029/SB 915 would change the Nursing Practice Act to allow APRNs (nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists, and clinical nurse specialists) to independently: Prescribe dangerous drugs and controlled substances (up to Schedule III with some Schedule II privileges in inpatient facilities and hospice), Order and interpret diagnostic testing, and Prescribe medical devices and durable medical equipment.

Physicians and the Medical Practice Act recognize prescribing and diagnosing as the practice of medicine. Organized medicine opposes HB 2029/SB 915 because:

APRNs are currently free to practice independently and to the top of their license – as a nurse, which is what they are. The Nursing Practice Act does not allow nurses to independently prescribe medication, as defined by Occupations Code, Title 3, Subtitle E, Chapter 301, Subchapter A, Section 301.002(2): Nursing can screen under standing orders and prescribe therapeutic or corrective measures when delegated by a physician. HB 2029/ SB 915 would allow independent APRNs to practice medicine.

- All members of the health care team are important, but the team must be physician-led as health care practitioners are not interchangeable. All physicians have by a significant order of magnitude more education and clinical training than APRNs. At a minimum, physicians have between 10,000 and 15,000 hours of clinical training, whereas APRNs have between 500 and 720 hours of self- or minimally proctored clinical training hours.

- In states where APRNs have been granted independent prescribing and diagnosing authority, a variety of guardrails guide the transition to practice: minimum hours or years of close supervision by a physician; oversight by the state board of medicine; required liability coverage; requirements to self- identify to patients as a nurse, not a physician; and ongoing collaboration and consultation, to name a few. Patient safety and protection are paramount.

- If collaborative, prescriptive, or supervisory agreements with physicians are burdensome, unworkable, impractical, or excessively expensive, then let's fix SB 406 from the 2013 legislative session, not throw it out completely. ?

Passage of HB 2029/SB 915 will not increase access to care in rural or border settings, as claimed. 93% of APRNs already practice in urban areas, with the vast majority employed by physicians, health systems, federally qualified health clinics, local health departments, and retail health clinics.

- If the state legislature changes the law and grants APRNs the authority to independently prescribe and diagnose, which is currently specially prohibited by the Nursing Practice Act, APRNs should be regulated by the Texas Medical Board along with physicians.

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Penelope Pivalizza, Dr

Self, pediatrician

Houston, TX

Dear committee members. Please do not undermine the strength, vigor and safety of medical school and residency training for physicians by allowing nurses to attain equivalence with a vastly inferior and truncated training. This is a danger to Texas patients. Physicians need to be leaders of the care team and while we need APRNs as valuable members of the team, they do not have the training to safely do that independently without physician oversight and supervision, especially in high acuity hospital clinical situations.

Please do not be swayed by emotional, unscientific nursing testimony. They should practice to the full extent of their license and that is a nursing license, not a medical one.

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Natalia Santiago-Morales, Dr.

Self

Houston, TX

HB 2029/SB 915 would change the Nursing Practice Act to allow APRNs (nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists, and clinical nurse specialists) to independently:

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Order and interpret diagnostic testing, and?

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Physicians and the Medical Practice Act recognize prescribing and diagnosing as the practice of medicine. Organized medicine opposes HB 2029/SB 915 because:

APRNs are currently free to practice independently and to the top of their license – as a nurse, which is what they are. The Nursing Practice Act does not allow nurses to independently prescribe medication, as defined by Occupations Code, Title 3, Subtitle E, Chapter 301, Subchapter A, Section 301.002(2): Nursing can screen under standing orders and prescribe therapeutic or corrective measures when delegated by a physician. HB 2029/ SB 915 would allow independent APRNs to practice medicine. ? All members of the health care team are important, but the team must be physician-led as health care practitioners are not interchangeable. All physicians more education and clinical training than APRNs. At a minimum, physicians have between 10,000 and 15,000 hours of clinical training, whereas APRNs have between 500 and 720 hours of self- or minimally proctored clinical training hours. ?

In states where APRNs have been granted independent prescribing and diagnosing authority, a variety of guardrails guide the transition to practice: minimum hours or years of close supervision by a physician; oversight by the state board of medicine; required liability coverage; requirements to self- identify to patients as a nurse, not a physician; and ongoing collaboration and consultation, to name a few. Patient safety and protection are paramount. ?

If collaborative, prescriptive, or supervisory agreements with physicians are burdensome, unworkable, impractical, or excessively expensive, then let's fix SB 406 from the 2013 legislative session, not throw it out completely. ?

Passage of HB 2029/SB 915 will not increase access to care in rural or border settings, as claimed. 93% of APRNs already practice in urban areas, with the vast majority employed by physicians, health systems, federally qualified health clinics, local health departments, and retail health clinics. ?

If the state legislature changes the law and grants APRNs the authority to independently prescribe and diagnose, which is currently specially prohibited by the Nursing Practice Act, APRNs should be regulated by the Texas Medical Board along with physicians.

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Quentin Buck, Dr.

Self, physician

Houston, TX

Hello, as a practicing physician, I have seen firsthand how limited the training of nurse practitioners is when it comes to clinical practice. I have seen dangerous mistakes made without considering the science behind medicines and the physiology knowledge required to diagnose and treat complex medical conditions - by nurse practitioners who don't have the training to learn these things. HB 2029 would put Texans' lives at risk by giving independent practice license to nurses who were not trained to practice independently. Please do not let this bill pass.

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Vishwanath Danthuluri, MD, FASMBS

Self

Austin, TX

While I acknowledge the importance of NP's as physician extenders to serving the community, I do not think we are at a point where NPs should function more independently. This seems like a move to substitute NPs for MDs. Their training is not as rigorous and their certification process is not demanding enough to safely substitute a physician's decision making potential. That doesn't mean NPs are not smart or capable, but we are talking about human lives at stake. While there are routine patient conditions and predictable treatment algorithms it takes years of training and testing to catch the atypical presentation for a common problem. Doctors make mistakes too but at least when it Happens we can say that they passed all the age-old standards

of training and certifications. How will we justify the mistakes when an NP with a quarter of the training and experience messes up? Until their training process matches ours, or conversely, an MDs requirements to confidently practice medicine is decreased systematically, I don't see how this is up for debate. Patients can continue to be seen and taken care of by an NP and this should happen under the supervision of an MD and should remain that way until the training and certification is commensurate with a physician's. Perhaps when NPs pass USMLE exams or complete at least part of a true residency program then we can talk as if we are comparing apples to apples. Right now we are talking about fruits and vegetables. Again it's not to say a person can't be trained but this is a huge corner being cut and we aren't there yet. If passing a bill like this we need to really rethink why we ask our doctors to do 4 years of college, 4 years of graduate school and minimum 3 years of residency (effectively sacrificing our 20s) all while accumulating an average of 200-300k of debt. I kindly ask for patience in this decision and make sure all potential issues have been thought out. Please don't pass this Bill.

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Michelle Suh, Dr.

Self, physician

Houston, TX

As a physician and concerned citizen, I strongly object to the wildly misguided HB 2029. Physicians represent four years of medical school, dedicated (and often grueling) residencies, and oftentimes fellowships yet we would never claim to practice nursing skills independently because that is not what our training has prepared us for. The same is absolutely true of nurses and their scope of practice. Allowing advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) to practice independently is an absurd misunderstanding, at best, of the two fields' scope. Would you have an athletic trainer step in as head of the UT football team? Physicians and nurses rely on specialized, dedicated skillsets and training to provide the best care for our patients. To allow APRNs independent practicing privileges means denying patients the care of a board-certified expert. Physicians have 10,000 and 15,000 hours of clinical training, whereas APRNs have between 500 and 720 hours of self- or minimally proctored clinical training hours. I will always seek a physician to care for my family and myself; it is a grave error to pretend anything less is the same.

---

Dario Kivelevitch

Self, physician

Dallas, TX

If the idea is to provide primary care access to underserved areas then the bill should only allow independent practice in such areas. Likewise, if the idea is to improve primary care access to the US population in general then the bill should not allow NPs to practice outside the scope of primary care. Otherwise, we'll see increasing numbers of med spas and cosmetic centers operated by NPs. In other states where similar legislation was passed the healthcare access inequity has not been fixed mostly due to the lack of clear regulation on the type and place of independent practice of NP. Without any sort of regulation, this bill seems to be an attempt to increase the number of healthcare providers without any clear order just to create unequal competition and bring down physician's prices. If the attempt is to decrease the cost of healthcare, then it is imperious to remind people that all healthcare providers account for approximately 10% of all healthcare costs. Therefore, if there is a need to decrease the said healthcare cost the target should be the cost of medications, hospitalizations, and healthcare insurances.

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Samuel Mirrop, MD

Central Texas Primary Care Alliance - Vice President and private pediatrician in Austin Texas.

Austin, TX

I am writing in opposition to HB2029/SB915.

My name is Samuel Mirrop and I'm a private pediatrician in Austin, Texas. I've been practicing general pediatrics in Austin Texas since 1993. In addition to practicing general Pediatrics, I am also a faculty member in the department of pediatrics at Dell Medical School. In addition, I am a board member on the pediatric leadership board at Dell children's medical center and I serve



on the Dell Children's Health Alliance as a board member.

Another roll I serve, and probably the most pertinent as far as this bill is concerned, is a preceptor/faculty member of Texas Tech University's Health Sciences Center where I have trained/supervise pediatric nurse practitioner students. In addition I work side-by-side with multiple nurse practitioners and physician assistant in our private practice. I supervise them at our day clinic and at our night after hours clinic as well. As clinicians, they do an excellent job in our clinics and they are an important member of our team. Nevertheless, I cannot emphasize enough that they need direct physician supervision. Our APRN's appreciate our guidance and frequently seek our expertise in the diagnosis and management of patients seen in our clinic. It's a very collaborative effort and our patients and our staff feel it works very well when we all work together.

I know you are aware that physicians receive exponentially more training than APRN's in both basic sciences and in direct patient care as well. As I mentioned above, I have trained nurse practitioners and know that they do not have the same capability as a physician would on a day-to-day basis with patient care. APRN's practicing independently would put many patients at risk for inappropriate or even potentially harmful care.

I know most of the senators/representatives do not have any training in healthcare. The best analogy I can give you is how paralegals compare to attorneys who are practicing law. A paralegal has four years of undergraduate training. If their degree is not in paralegal studies, they can take an online class over several months to obtain paralegal certification. I know paralegals serve a valuable purpose in law firms and with government attorneys as well. They are, however, limited in their overall knowledge of the law when compared to an attorney who attended law school after undergraduate studies. I'm sure you would agree that it would be a bad idea to let paralegals practice law without any supervision from attorneys.

In summary, APRN's serve an important role in the delivery of healthcare especially with the shortage of primary care physicians. Their training, however, is far less than a physician. At a minimum, physicians have between 10,000 and 15,000 hours of clinical training, whereas APRNs have between 500 and 720 hours of self- or minimally proctored clinical training hours. Please consider the enormous potential risk of allowing APRN's to practice independently and NOT pass HB2029.

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Chioma Arinze, MD

Self

Pearland, TX

This is totally unacceptable and a direct slap in the face of all MD/DOs who have endured years of rigorous training and education in order to be deemed competent to manage patients. Medicine is not child's play and human life is not to be played with. APRNs do not have comparable training or education to do what a doctor does and to advocate otherwise is to undermine the medical profession. Why then do we have medical school, residency, fellowship and multiple challenging board exams and certifications? If legislators want to give the same prescribing rights to APRNs then they should simply eradicate the Physician profession - NO MORE DOCTORS PERIOD. The MD/DO degree should mean more than this. If this bill is approved it will be the biggest shame!

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Karla Salazar

Self, doctor

Houston, TX

ARNPs receive very limited training and will be increasing mortality and morbidity if allowed to practice independently.

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Jonathan Mejia, M.D.

Self

Houston, TX

At a minimum, physicians have between 10,000 and 15,000 hours of clinical training, whereas APRNs have between 500 and 720 hours of self- or minimally proctored clinical training hours. This is undermining the authority of doctors and leads to worse outcomes with less supervision

Sonali Patel, MD

Self

Montgomery, TX

Please oppose HB 2029. Increasing patient access to high quality primary care is crucial, but HB 2029 will not accomplish this goal. If passed, the bill will hand insurers, and other bureaucrats, another tool to cut corners and degrade the quality of medical care patients receive. Instead of deeming lesser trained practitioners to be on par with physicians, there are better options, that increase the supply of physicians, like bills being considered in other states to address a growing shortage of training positions for medical school graduates.

---

Vijesh Patel, MD

Self

Port neches, TX

Please oppose HB 2029. Increasing patient access to high quality primary care is crucial, but HB 2029 will not accomplish this goal. If passed, the bill will hand insurers, and other bureaucrats, another tool to cut corners and degrade the quality of medical care patients receive. Instead of deeming lesser trained practitioners to be on par with physicians, there are better options, that increase the supply of physicians, like bills being considered in other states to address a growing shortage of training positions for medical school graduates.

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Yoonhee Choi, Dr

Self/Physician

Frisco, TX

This is absolutely reckless and endangering the public. The APPs do not have the training and qualifications to practice independently.

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Rene Choi, Dr

Self/physician

Frisco, TX

This is absolutely reckless and endangering the public. The APPs do not have the training and qualifications to practice independently.

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Avni Bhalakia

Self, Physician

Houston, TX

Dear House committee,  
As a pediatrician, I would like to state my opposition to HB 2029 that would allow for unsupervised, independent practice of nurse practitioners. I believe that pediatricians, through the 7+ years and more than 12,000 hours of training, are uniquely qualified to lead medical teams composed of nurse practitioners or physicians assistants. The long training has given physicians depth and breadth of experience, from inpatient to outpatient settings, critical care and emergency room experiences. The

experience allows me to make difficult diagnoses, manage challenging patient cases, and manage complex medical care for patients. While I value the contributions of nurse practitioners and physician assistants to the medical team, they do not have the same depth and breadth of experience as pediatricians. Additionally, research has shown they are not more likely to practice in underserved or resource-poor areas. Texas should NOT change the scope of practice for nurse practitioners. Instead, the state should continue to pursue incentives for physician relocation and expand access to health coverage for children to ensure children across the state have access to comprehensive and quality care.

Thank you,  
Avni Bhalakia MD

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Michael Graves

Self, Physician

Austin, TX

I write in strong opposition to HB 2029. I am a practicing dermatologist and skin cancer surgeon in Austin, Texas. Granting independent practice to advanced practice registered nurses has little tangible benefit but comes with high concern for patient safety issues. I will address my concerns with a focus on dermatology:

Advance practice registered nurses have 500-720 hours of direct patient care, as opposed to the 12,000-16,000 clinical hours a physician has. This results in higher rates of misdiagnosis, incorrect treatment, and unnecessary biopsies which have been demonstrated in numerous studies in our field. Within my own practice I have personally seen numerous missed melanomas, incorrectly diagnoses medical conditions treated with ineffective and often costly medications, and substantially higher rates of unnecessary biopsies amongst non physician providers. I have high concern for patient safety and appropriate medical care when an APRN does not have a physician available for consultation. APRNs work best in an integrated team where a physician is available for guidance, which is in line with numerous public surveys showing support for a physicians having primary responsibility for diagnosis and management of their conditions.

A common argument is that independent practice will increase the number of rural providers, but this is not what happens in practice. Non-physician health care providers locate themselves in the same geographic areas as physicians. This has been demonstrated in states where these providers have been granted independent practice. Furthermore, nothing about current physician lead team arrangements prevents non-physician providers from working in these locations. There is no evidence for this argument.

Granting advance practice registered nurses provides no benefit to our patients, but comes with a high concern for patient safety and appropriate medical care.

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Tilden Childs III, Dr.

Texas Radiological Society

Fort Worth, TX

My name is Tilden Childs. I am a practicing radiologist with over 40 years of experience. I write to you today representing the Texas Radiological Society (TRS) in opposition to HB 2029 and the expansion of independent practice by mid-level providers. The practice of radiology is a complex and carefully regulated intersection of the practice of medicine with the utilization of imaging technology. Radiology intersects with multiple medical and surgical specialties and organ systems while utilizing a number of imaging modalities to evaluate myriad disease processes.

TRS members are concerned about patient safety. Provisions of the bill will allow advance practice registered nurses (APRNs) to diagnose and treat patients utilizing advanced imaging technology:

"Sec. 301.357. ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSES.

(a) Advanced practice registered nursing includes:

- (1) ordering, performing, and interpreting diagnostic tests;
- (2) formulating primary and differential medical diagnoses and advanced assessments;"

Chief among our concerns:

1. **STANDARD OF CARE:** Radiology is a medical specialty requiring at least 4 years of residency. Many radiologists do an additional 1 or 2 years of fellowship training. If the training requirements are set by the Board of Nursing and are materially different from those of a radiologist physician, then there is no reason to believe that APRNs would be meeting the standard of care for radiology.
2. **EQUIVALENCY OF TRAINING:** It is well known that training for APRNs is significantly less extensive than that for physicians, in general, so there is no reason to think that radiology training for APRNs would be any different.
3. **OVER ORDERING/INAPPROPRIATE ORDERING:** It has been shown that APRNs order more tests than physicians, in general, so one would expect that a less qualified/unqualified person attempting to practice radiology would be more likely than a radiologist to order additional, unnecessary, and/or inappropriate follow-up studies.
4. **ADVANCED IMAGING:** Advanced imaging such as CT scan, MRI scan, PET scan, PET/CT fusion scan, and ultrasound scan interpretation is quite complex. It is highly unlikely that non-radiologist non-physicians would be able to learn, let alone become competent, in the interpretation of these studies.
5. **INTERVENTIONAL PROCEDURES FOR DIAGNOSIS AND/OR TREATMENT:** The additional training and experience required to achieve the competency to do this broad range of procedures would most likely be unattainable by non-physician practitioners.

Finally, the Texas Legislature allows for APRNs to practice under the direct supervision of a physician. Nothing has happened to change this reasonable approach to the practice of medicine. In fact, the licensure of the Radiologist Assistant (RA) in Texas in 2019 mandated that these specially trained radiology providers must practice under the direct supervision of a qualified physician. It should be no different.

---

Chantel Morey, Dr

Self

Houston, TX

As a physician, I find it dangerous that an RN be able to practice so far out of their training and scope. Being able to practice independently as a physician requires physician training. APRN training is not at all similar to physician training in terms of time, scope, or experience and thus endangers patients. Keeping patients safe requires practicing within one's scope and this bill would go against that prospect entirely.

---

Rodolfo Morales Urby, Dr.

Self - Physician

San Antonio, TX

Rural areas face significant challenges to recruit and retain qualified health professionals. As a Family Physician, I have had the privilege of supervising and working closely with APRNs to truly expand access to primary care for vulnerable populations. I fully support legislative initiatives that reduce administrative burdens for APRNs, which may encourage more APRN professionals to provide care for underserved populations.

Physician/ APRN Care Teams will continue to be a lifeline for many Texans. Facilitating the good work of these professionals translates to more care for more people Thank you.

---

Usman Asad, Dr.

Texas Dermatological Association and Texas Medical Association

Richardson, TX

As a resident physician, I am strongly opposed to this bill and ask you to reconsider giving NPs the right to independently practice. There is a significant gap in education and training (years of schooling and thousands of hours of experience) between physicians and NPs. Unlike medical school curriculums that are standardized across the nation, NPs can get their degree online with no stringent requirements. This can and has led to a decrease in patient safety and quality of care. Studies show NPs overprescribe medications and have higher rates of incorrect diagnoses and unnecessary lab tests, leading to worse patient outcomes. It is unfair to blame it fully on them - they are trained to practice under a physician's supervision, not act in the role of a physician. We hear about the physician shortage; there is pressure from NP lobbyists to increase their scope of practice to target rural/underserved areas. However, studies show that NPs do not go to rural areas in any greater numbers than physicians. Primary care physicians (family medicine, internal medicine, pediatrics) are the most likely healthcare professionals to practice in such areas. Finally, allowing NPs to practice independently has resulted in a higher insurance rate for patients and increased costs to insurers, government programs, and employers. Independent NPs also do not fall under the same liability standards as physicians, reducing the ability for patients to recover damages in the case of an adverse event. Nurses undoubtedly have an important role in the medical hierarchy, but they cannot take the place of a fully trained physician.

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Christine Yanas, VP of Policy & Advocacy

Methodist Healthcare Ministries of South Texas, Inc.

San Antonio, TX

Chairwoman Klick, Vice-Chair Guerra and members of the Committee:

Methodist Healthcare Ministries is in support of House Bill 2029 by Chairwoman Stephanie Klick.

Methodist Healthcare Ministries is a member of the Texans for Healthcare Access Coalition and fully supports HB 2029's efforts to eliminate outdated delegation barriers for APRNs that can lead to savings for the state's budget, greater access for patients, especially for those seeking primary care in rural and underserved settings.

Prior to the pandemic and public health emergency period, APRNs were required to sign contracts with physicians in order to provide care for their patients. This regulation has been waived during the emergency period in 19 states, including Texas, allowing APRNs to provide care in locations and settings where it is needed most. And, 31 other states in the US have ended this practice and eliminated the physician delegation barrier altogether.

As a funder, Methodist Healthcare Ministries provides grants to healthcare community partners in its 74-county service area, which includes many rural communities that often find it difficult to recruit physicians to relocate their practices and families in small towns. We assist funded partners by offering benefits to attract providers, such as bonuses, increased salaries and education loan repayment offers. We find often that it is much easier to assist in recruiting and relocating APRNs to these small communities, especially for primary care. Having the additional barrier of securing a contact with a physician in order to set up a practice further complicates, delays, and many times stops the agreement from happening. HB 2029 eliminates unnecessary barriers for APRNs and equally ensures that regulatory oversight remains in place to protect both the provider and the patient.

We ask for your favorable support of HB 2029.

---

Gil Robinson, Dr.

Association of American Physicians and Surgeons (AAPS), President of Texas chapter

San Antonio, TX

Opposing bill HB 2029

HB 2029 is a bill to grant less thoroughly trained Practitioners discretion to direct care as if equivalent to fully trained doctors. Philosophically, I am a libertarian and decry excessive laws that require state permission to work. I support efforts of Texas to roll back over regulation of people's right to earn a living. However the essence of some work involves protecting your clients from harm. States have claimed the authority to oversee who has the qualifications to practice such professions. The twentieth Century saw rapid and widespread advances in medicine. Part of this progress is attributed to the rigorous training and standards the medical profession adopted early in that century. States universally adopted licensing of physicians in recognition of the benefits of a better trained medical profession. Now there is a growing movement of "mid-level" Practitioners whose positions were created as "physician extenders." When properly coordinated, such positions fill a valuable niche and allow nurses to use their knowledge more broadly while enhancing their earnings. However, the profession now wants to morph into a new entity that is less supervised or even unsupervised. As a physician, I have interacted with mid-level Practitioners many times both professionally and as a patient. Medicine is a profession fraught with many unknowns and uncertainty. Many medical symptoms have a multitude of causes and a very broad training is needed to sort out what's going on. Then optimal treatment must be chosen and this also frequently challenges the best clinicians. My experience tells me that mid-level practitioners simply haven't received sufficiently deep training in either the basic sciences of the clinical sciences to practice without oversight of a duly licensed physician. I respectfully submit that HB 2029 is not in the best interests of the public and should not become law in the state of Texas.

---

Ashoo Rao, MD

Self

Fort Worth, TX

Nurse practitioner should have Physician supervision

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seunghwan kim, Dr

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

To become a medical intern, the first year in residency after the medical school graduation, we need to complete 4 years of learning in medical school including a minimum of 2 years of clinical rotations at the hospital. After that, it takes at least 3 to 7 years in medical residency to become a specialist in an area. After residency, when we start working independently, we are not absolute specialists. We still discuss patients' illnesses or conditions among doctors and ask experienced physicians for advice for PATIENT'S SAFETY. To me, giving APRNs the authority of working in any field they want and the ability to prescribe any medication is the same as giving an elementary school student the authority to govern a country. Every citizen and every system in his/her country is at high risk of failing. If you have a heart condition, would you let APRNs see you, or do you want a trained physician in cardiology (heart) to see you?

---

Stacy Novick

Self - Family Nurse Practitioner

Round Rock, TX

I am a Family Nurse writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Deborah Hodge

Self, Nurse Practitioner

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Nickeya Laycock

Self

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Josiane Hulgan

Self

Pflugerville, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Diana Shepherd, RN

Self, Nurse Practitioner student

Richardson, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Paula Christianson-Silva

HOME

SAN ANTONIO, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A., all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Pamala Hull

TNP

North Richland Hills, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

These restrictions have gone on long enough! Physicians need to get over themselves!

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Carole Mackavey, Dr

University of Texas Health Science Center Cizik School of Nursing

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Michelle Newton, Nurse Practitioner

Self/ Nurse Practitioners

Little Elm, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

This is needed and should be supported in Texas to promote healthcare and protect patients. It is essential that Texas catch up to the nation in the practice of medicine and stop inhibiting educated providers from taking care of people in need of care.

---

Jessica Ribeiro, APRN

Self

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of



Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Patricia Walker, APRN, FNP-C

Self/ FNP

Buna, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Miranda High

TNP

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

John Gonzalez, Dr

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Coppell, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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shelia franklin

Nurses

Huntington, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Laura Facchini

Self, nurse practitioner student

Georgetown, TX

I am writing in support of HB2029 to increase access to primary healthcare for millions of Texans. Please consider removal of the unnecessary delegation agreements as 31 states have already done. Thank you.

---

Sarah Ballard

Self- APRN student and RN, BSN

Hallettsville, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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Lucinda Stinson

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Troy, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support and move this bill forward for the betterment of all citizens of Texas. Thank you for your support!

---

Alicia Lynn Hoekstra, RN

Self

Grand Prairie, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Sarah Ballard

Self- APRN student and RN, BSN

Hallettsville, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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Ellen Becker, Ms.

Self

Corinth, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Teri Singleterry, APRN, FNP-C

Self, nurse practitioner

Wolfe City, TX

Healthcare is so challenging for many Texans to receive daily and these restrictions just keep impeding their choices. There are so many that could benefit from removing these restrictions in rural communities where nurse practitioners are willing to go and live and treat patients. They need to be allowed to do this. We will always keep the patients' best interests in the forefront and know our limitations and will always refer when it is beyond our scope. We just need the chance to give people an affordable option who don't otherwise have a choice. Please remove these restrictions like so many other states have to help the people of their state. Thank you.

---

Cindy Weston, Family Nurse Practitioner

Texas Nurse Practitioner Association

College Station, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Theresa Ybarra, RN,FNP-C

TNPMember

Victoria, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

I am currently working on my PMHNP Post- Masters Certification which will allow me to care for those who are suffering from mental health illnesses. Please help in allowing me the opportunity to help those who are the most desperate and vulnerable. Thank you for your time. Theresa O. Ybarra.

---

Shauna MacFarlane-Okongo, Family Nurse Practitioner

Self and Nurse Practitioners

Haslet, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first,

the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Dovie Stewart, FaNp-C  
Brush County Medical  
FREER, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Colt Pickett, Mr.  
Self, registered nurse  
Conroe, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Shannon Hammonds, APRN  
Texas Nurse Practitioners  
Tahoka, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans, such as myself, live in and provide healthcare to health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Robin Floyd, Dr.  
Home Hospice/Family Nurse Practitioner  
Odessa, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Feven Habterufael, RN nurse, Student NP

TNP

Bedford, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Kari Benton, APRN, FNP-C

Self - Family Nurse Practitioner

Katy, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Kerstin Gillespie, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

Self. Doctorate educated Nurse Practitioner in Neurology

Georgetown, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

I am a nurse practitioner who provides neurological care to hundreds of Texans with TriCare, Medicare and Medicaid, as well as other insurances. If this bill is not passed, I will likely be moving to a state that does have FPA, so that I can practice to the full extent of my license. Texas has outdated laws that delay and complicate care for my patients, and it's unnecessary.

---

Angele Ashley, DNP, APRN, NP-C

Self

Irving, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Becky Green, Ms

Self - Family Nurse Practitioner

Orange, TX

I'm writing today in strong support of HB 2029, which would remove the outdated delegation mandate that inhibits APRNs ability to practice to the full extent of their licensing and, in turn, decreases many Texans' access to healthcare. Thirty-one states, the District of Columbia, all branches of the military and the VA have done so already. Millions of Texans live in healthcare shortage areas and APRNs are ready and willing to help bridge this gap.

---

Ellyn Lizakowski

SELF/NURSE PRACTITIONER

AUSTIN, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

RICHARD ROBERTS, FNP

Self

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. Thank you.

---

Mitzy Kobeissi, Dr.

Self / Family Nurse Practitioner/ Doctor of Nursing Practice

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Kenneth Lowrance, Dr./FNP

Texas Christian University

Clifton, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

I am a Family Nurse Practitioner, a Professor teaching Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, and a lifetime rural resident. I am

aware of the extreme need for access to care, and strongly recommend support for HB 2029. Texas lags behind many other states in this regard, and this should be remedied during this legislative session.

Kenneth Lowrance, DNP, APRN, CNS, FNP-BC, NEA-BC, CNE, FAANP

---

Megan Doiron

Self, Registered Nurse

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. As a registered nurse and future nurse practitioner, I understand how important it is for all Texans to have access to safe, quality, and affordable healthcare. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A., all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Delegation mandates prevent APRNs from practicing to their full capabilities and can hinder their ability to serve Texans most in need.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Donald Webb

Self

Copperas Cove, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. If other states have shown no ill affects to passing such a law, why would it be detrimental to Texas as the TMP suggests, if it wasn't all about control; thus in turn actually harming the health of patient by limiting basic health care needs?

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Kristie Anguiano, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Jonne Wilmore, APRN

TNP

Houston, TX

am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have

---

Claire Whitehead

Self

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Valarie Chambless

self Family Nurse Practitioner

Canton, TX

I am writing to support HB 2029. As a Nurse Practitioner in Texas, I have had the unfortunate experience of the health care shortage to our citizens. Millions live within health care shortage areas and APRN's have the ability to help. In order for us to help, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A., all military branches, and the District of Columbia have done. Please support increased access to healthcare for Texas and support HB 2029.

---

Amanda Armond, Mrs.

Self

Austin, TX

Requiring NPs to have a delegating physician is an outdated requirement. With this restriction, NPs, especially in rural areas, are limited to providing necessary care that may otherwise not be available to rural communities. Removing this restriction will open access to our community to well trained NPs.

Please remove this restriction.

Thank you,

Amanda Armond, APRN

---

Elizabeth Akinyemi

Self - Family Nurse Practitioner

Georgetown, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. This is a much needed and overdue initiative to alleviate the health care shortage experienced by many Texans. The state of Texas needs to follow suite with the other 31 states and remove the physician delegation mandated for Nurse practitioner

---

Ruth Day, APRN, CNP, COHN-S/CM

self

Alvin, TX



I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Jody Mackling, APRN

TNP

Royse City, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. APRNs are highly trained medical providers that can help fill this healthcare gap by giving quality care to our Texas residents. Please, help us improve healthcare for Texas.

---

Stephanie Martinez

Self- RN, FNP student

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Alicia Cure

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Wichita Falls, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Leslie Dupont

Self, FNP

San Antonio, TX

We need this as APPs!

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Rhonda Howard, Ms.

Self, VA APRN, FNP, primary care provider

Amarillo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Susan Short

Texas Nurse Practitioners association/ Advanced Practice Nurse- APRN FNP BC

Joshua, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. There is no logical reason to let this oppressive requirement continue which hurts the population in all areas of Texas and restricts the access to affordable healthcare.

---

Annysue Emmons, Dr.

TNP

Diboll, TX

Discontinuing the need for NPs to sign a contract with Physicians would allow access to care for more people as more NPs could establish practices in remote and underserved areas without the added burden of paying a supervising physician. This can also reduce cost for the patient and the burden on the healthcare system. I am in favor of physician collaboration, as I think it is important to collaborate with colleagues regardless of your position when it affects patient care; however, when a mandate such as this has become outdated it is time to reevaluate the importance.

---

Joy Trevino

Self - Nurse Practitioner

Iola, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Pamela Lombana, APRN-CPNP

Clinica La Salud, LLC

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Neda Miraki, I

self

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Monica Tenhunen

Self Nursing Professor/GNP-BC

Royse City, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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Michael Gaines

Self

Port Lavaca, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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Connie Heard, Dr.

Self

Galveston, TX

The poor people of Texas do not have the care they need due to limited access of healthcare providers. As APRNs we can provide the needed care they need to help reduce the economic burden on society and improve the overall well-being of Americans. As APRNs practicing without supervision we can practice independently in all poorer communities without restrictions reaching the most vulnerable populations and saving lives.

---

Cheryl Winter, Dr.

Dr. Cheryl Winter/VITAL Health Solutions

Conroe, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. The quality of NP-delivered care is irrefutable, confirmed by more than 200 studies that attest to the outstanding outcomes NPs deliver. NPs have more than 50-year proven track record of delivering high-quality, affordable, patient-centered care. Patients receiving NP care have high satisfaction rates, shorter hospital stays, fewer avoidable emergency

visits and hospital readmissions and lower medication costs---not to mention significantly lower malpractice rates than their physician counterparts. Perhaps this is why so many physicians seek to hire NPs to join them in practice. Today, 80% of adults report they have been treated or know someone who has been treated by an NP, and more than 56% of patients report that NPs spend more time listening to them and addressing their concerns than other providers.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Reagan Walls, MSN, APRN, FNP-C

Self

Tyler, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Sean Dittman

Self/Nurse Practitioner

Cibolo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. I own a family practice clinic in Cibolo. I am the only primary care provider in this city. In compliance with the current law I collaborate every thirty days (after the fact) regarding four of my patients. My delegating physician never comes to my clinic, nor has interaction with my patients. I must pay a fee for this 15 min conversation every month in order to maintain my practice. The fear of my business closing the doors, if something happens to my delegating physician is anxiety inducing. The 10 employees and their families also depend on the clinic continuing to function. Clinician never practice without collaboration with other clinicians. I collaborate all the time with sub-specialist and other providers all the time. This bill will not increase my scope of practice. I will continue to practice primary care for the 4000 patients currently coming to my practice, but without the fear and costly mandated delegated authority to practice what I'm already trained and educated to do.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Annette Gomez, Lt Col R, PNP-BC

NAPNAP

Canyon Lake, TX

It is time for Advanced Practice Nurses to have the autonomy in which we are educated! Texas needs to catch up with the rest of the states that allow us to independently practice. It has been clear for many years that many patients and families prefer being seen by an APN. We are ready for this, let's get it done.

---

Juan Hilario

Self

Floresville, TX

As a Nurse Practitioner practicing in South Texas and seeing the number of Urgent Care patients that come into the practice that I currently work at, I know and understand that there is a need to have more access to health in this area. Removing limitations will help with the problems. Please approve

---

victor ghaemmaghani

tnp

Austin, TX

am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Monica Bildner, MSN APRN FNP-C

Self Family Nurse Practitioner

IRVING, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Susan Harris, CNM, FNP-C

Self

Flowemound, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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Beverly St Julien, FNP,C

Self, Nurse Practitioner

Orange, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Christie Potter, APRN, CPNP-PC

Self

Frisco, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Christie Potter, APRN  
Texas Nurse Practitioner

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Susan Harris, CNM/FNP  
Lifestream health Centre  
Coppell, TX

As a NP business owner I writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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Carolyn Patton, DNP APRN FNP-C  
Self, family nurse practitioner  
Nacogdoches, TX

am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Kelly Lee, Dr  
Self- family nurse practitioner  
Denton, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Many nurse practitioners like myself have moved or are considering moving to other states that permit them to practice to the full extent of their training and education. Please keep these valuable providers in Texas, where they can serve their communities with safe, affordable care!

---

Stacey Gaona, Family nurse practitioner  
Self, Family Nurse Practitioner  
Brownsville, TX

Over the past 5 years I have worked primary care and served thousands of patients. I have gone through 3 different supervising physicians and have found they all just agree with how I provide care. I was trained to seek answers to my questions by

researching medical databases to safely care for my patients. I currently practice at a rural clinic that my supervising physician has never stepped foot in yet his name reads as their primary care provider. Patients have experience delays in care due to insurance companies not acknowledging me because I'm a nurse practitioner and waiting for my supervising physician to be added to their insurance. When trying to open my own practice the collaborating physician wanted 30% of profits just to sign off he was my supervisor and review a small percentage of patient charts. This isn't fair to advanced practitioners that are trying to increase access to care. Especially in small border towns like my own when the population has a high rate of chronically ill individuals who can't afford health insurance. Please consider removing the outdated supervision that is of no benefit to the population so advanced practitioners can practice to their full extent of their training and help create a healthier community.

---

Michelle Tinsley

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Bryan, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

herman castillo, Mr

Self

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Gail Beaver, Nurse Practitioner

Beaver Medical Group

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Amy Huston, APRN

TNP

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first,

the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Eric Vance

Family Practice, self

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Nurse Practitioners have more than earned their right to be independent providers and practice within their scope of practice. After covid, we need them more than ever.

---

Jeannie Cook

TNP

Plano, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Christy Blanco, Dr.

Self/nurse practitioner

El Paso, TX

I support HB 2029, texas is not a business friendly state for nurse practitioners. If texas wants to be business friendly, then Please pass HB 2029. I opened my practice in new Mexico because I didn't want to risk losing my business if something happened to the physician and because I could not afford to pay a physician. I support HB 2029.

---

Deborah Petty, Dr.

Self/APRN

Dallas, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Aaron Salinas, Nurse Practitioner

TNP



Edinburg, TX

I am Nurse Practitioner from the Rio Grande Valley and am writing to support HB 2029. Nurse Practitioner need to be allowed to practice to the fullest extent of their education and training. Covid 19 was a huge wake up call for us all. To expect our physicians to be able an address all the patients medical care is not feasible. There are many gaps in our current system. Nurse Practitioner will work together with our physician colleagues and help address those gaps. Currently NPs in Texas have so many obstacles and “red tape” that prevents us from performing and practicing to the fullest potential and extend of our training. Its time we set all politics aside and we prioritize our communities and all Texans. I ask that we support HB 2029 and we join the efforts that 31 other states have done and approve this bill. Our patients depend on us.

---

Janet Dean, APRN BC

Silhouette Health and Wellness

Plano, TX

I am requesting that Nurse practitioners be allowed to practice to the full extent of their education. Without the requirement of a collaborating physician. This adds additional expense and is unnecessary.

---

Shannon Wright

Nurse Practitioners

Belton, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Ashley Stein, RN, MSN

Brazos Valley Nurse Practitioners Association

College Station, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Sarah Walker

Advanced Practice Nurses

Porter, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Tiffany Jeter

Self, RN, APRN student

Aledo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Michelle Lewis, Nurse Practitioner

Self

Colleyville, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Glenda Deahl, NP

Self

San Antonio, TX

Please consider removing barriers to independent practice. The National Academy of Sciences has rightly called medical board control of another professional groups practice turf guarding, suggesting that the DOJ pursue the issue as restraint of trade. This began with the AMA's political action to end community nursing work in the 1920s with the defunding of the Sheppard Towner act. The health of women and children plummeted but medical costs increased and this satisfied the AMA. It has been nearly 100 years and we are still paying the increased costs in lives, suffering, access to care, and cost of care. We cannot undo the past but we can move forward with the right choice for a healthy Texas. I respectfully ask you to consider the health of Texas by removing barriers to practice for nurse practitioners. Unlike medicine, we train in an apprenticeship model with work based experience and completely adequate education and credentialing for our limited scope practice. We do practice within the scope of that training. I have an independent license in four other states. Yet, because I live in Texas, I cannot practice independently. Imagine driving cross country. I can drive with my drivers license in AZ and NM, but when I cross into Texas, I must relinquish the wheel to someone less familiar with the vehicle and the road, and who is driving through the rear view mirror. Physician oversight is chart review in retrospect, after the fact... through the rear view mirror. How can you justify that this improves patient safety? It IS restraint of trade and it is time for Texas to leave the 1920s patriarchal model of caring for patients. Please grant nurse practitioners full practice authority - please allow us to practice, within our scope, as we have been educated and trained. Thank you.

---

Kristin Lucio

TNP/FNP

Corpus Christi, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of

Columbia already have. I implore you to consider this Bill so that we can continue to care for our communities and allow more access to healthcare. Our communities deserve equal access to quality healthcare by APRNs. Thank you for your time.

---

Sheba Luke, DNP, APRN, FNP-C, NEA-BC

TNP

Sugar Land, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Robert Zuniga, Dr.

Occufit Medical Center

McAllen, TX

I'm writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Nydia Gonzalez, Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioner

Texas Nurse Practitioner

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Robin Nickles

Self

Galveston, TX

am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Pam Summers, APRN

TNP

Jacksonville, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. Texas needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. I considered moving to another state but my family is in Texas.

I support HB 2029.

---

Elizabeth Grace

self/Palliative care NP

College Station, TX

Passing of this bill would take away unnecessary burdens on nurse practitioners and increase access to healthcare for our rural and underserved population in Texas.

---

James Lee

Self

Denton, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Alicia Kleinhans

Self/Acute Care Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Tricia Lawler, APRN-BC

Self

Rowlett, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

I am an APRN practicing in Texas for more than 15years. I moved here from a NY 18 years ago and am amazed that this is still

an issue here in Texas. I have visited the capital my early years trying to help address our prescribing rights and educating our representatives of our very important role in health care. I have hope that we are finally in a place to see changes much needed to open access to health care to many people in areas that are needed!

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Sunnie Thiberville, NP

Self

Abilene, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Leann Preston, Dr.

Self/Family Nurse Practitioner

Childress, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, especially in rural and underserved areas. APRNs can definitely help close the gap in health care! But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Patricia Wills Bagnato, Dr.

self, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. The delegation mandate places unnecessary burden on APRN practice to require (and sometimes pay) for a physician supervisor. APRNs are regulated and adhere to the Texas Board of Nursing practice rules and regulations and are responsible and liable for providing safe and quality patient care.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Sheila Salinas

02/23/2021

San Antonio, TX

Please support this bill to pass. APP can fulfill the roles in rural areas where health care providers are scares. Areas that desperately need help all over Texas, where not everyone can go.

---

Yanira Vazquez, RN

self

Killeen, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Jovan Hernandez

Austin Advanced Practice Nurses

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas (health care deserts), and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Byron Young

Self - APRN

Beaumont, TX

As an APRN of almost 20 years - and an RN of 30 years - I see health disparities first hand. I primarily serve a Medicaid, Low-income and Uninsured population with many barriers to care. The removal of the current barrier — namely, the physician oversight requirement — would improve access and optimize health outcomes in my population immediately! Some of my most vulnerable patients— particularly those living with HIV/AIDS — would realize a wealth of benefits IF this oppressive requirement is removed. I am hopeful that while Texas has repeatedly opted against Medicaid expansion, we will make this most important patient-centered choice today.

Please feel free to contact me at (409) 782-0131 or by email at [bkyoungfnp01@yahoo.com](mailto:bkyoungfnp01@yahoo.com)

Byron Young, MSN, APRN, FNP-BC

Director of APRN Services

Baptist Hospitals of Southeast Texas

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Zoe Cameron

Texas nurse practitioners/self

Bee Caves, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Stephanie Atkinson, APRN, FNP-C

Self-Nurse Practitioner

Dallas, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

California has already made this important decision to remove these burdensome and outdated mandates and I urge Texas to follow suit.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Doris Cudjoe

Self APRN

Grand Prairie, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Margaret Hensley FNP, Mrs

Self—Hensley Clinic

Santa Anna, TX

As an independent NP in MUSA Coleman County, I 'm writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Kristin Gallegos, FNP-C

Self- Nurse Practitioner

Copperas Cove, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texas live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Colombia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas residents and support HB 2029.

---

Stacy Duke, COO

Self / Engineer

Houston, TX

**ABSOLUTELY OPPOSED**

So one day we will have high school biology teachers performing limited open heart surgery?

Stop the madness. If a nurse wants to be a Doctor let him or her go to Med School.

Wallace Lawson, Nurse Practitioner

Self

Cypress, TX

I support HB 2029 to remove regulations requiring APRN's to contract with physicians prior to servicing patients. I have to pay mine \$1,200 a month just to care for my patients. I can't hire additional staff and my patient suffer.

---

Danielle Deutschendorf, APRN, MSN, FNP-C / Major (Ret) USAF NC

Self - Family Nurse Practitioner

Pflugerville, TX

The emergency authorization for the practice of APRN without physician collaborative agreements during the COVID 19 pandemic has shown an increase in the availability of safe and qualified medical providers to Texas patients. I urge the Texas House to eliminate archaic and unnecessary barriers to practice for APRNs with the current "pay to work" system that is in place that also does not improve patient care, but provides extra income to physicians. As a retired USAF Nurse Practitioner the outdated laws required me to obtain a collaborative physician as I moved into the civilian healthcare arena, despite 6 years of autonomous practice of APRN while on Active Duty. Doesn't it seem like a waste to the Texas taxpayers who through the military financed my advanced nursing degree making me an APRN? In addition places such a burden for practice that does not improve the safe and access of Texas healthcare. Because, I am not from Texas and do not know any Texas civilian physicians, I was limited in where I could work as I could not find my own collaborative physician. Currently, I work in Public Health and our newest collaborative physician has less years experience in this area and comes to the more experienced NPs for advice regarding care standards. Also this regulation put a strain on the current interim Public Health authority when my department was without a head physician for several months and we were added to his list for supervision while he began coordinating the Austin PH response to COVID. Please seriously consider increasing and improving Texas patients access to quality care by ending there archaic regulations.

---

Kelly Martinez

Self

Pearland, TX

I support this bill! It allows more access to healthcare for myself and my family! Please vote Yes!

---

Holly Heid

Self- Family Nurse Practitioner

Arlington, TX

I am writing today to urge you to support HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate. We have 31 states, the V.A., all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia that have removed the delegation mandate, it is time that Texas do the same.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Carol Dunman

self - advanced practice nurse



Waco, TX

Please support HB2029. Texans deserve access to health care and with numerous shortages, APRNs can help. 31 states, the VA and all branches of the military have removed the delegation mandate. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Kathy Tbara

Self

Coppell, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Mohiuddin Rasel, NP

Self

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Leticia Ballesteros, APRN. FNP-C

Individual

Uvalde, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Thank you!

---

Kevin Martinez

Self

Pearland, TX

Please vote yes!! We need more access to healthcare. This will help!

---

Diego Naranjo, Mr

Self

Brownsville, TX

Support this bill

---

Julia Penberg

self--Director of Clinical Operations

Cedar Park, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Respectfully,

Julia Penberg

---

Terri Trumbly, APRN FNP-C

Self

Amarillo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Michael Hazel, DNP, RN, FNP-BC

self/ Nurse practitioner

Navasota, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

I have been serving the citizens of Texas for over 20 yrs as a nurse and nurse practitioner, I have spent many hours working in emergency rooms and clinics and have seen the shortages of healthcare providers first hand.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Brenda Ladkani

Self

Spring, TX

Please allow Nurse Practitioners to practice within their scope without a supervising MD as this reduces patient access to

competent and capable providers in underserved areas.

---

Kathy Shipp, Ms.

Self/ Family Nurse Practitioner/Faculty WTAMU FNP Program/Provider of care to low income women

Lubbock, TX

I support HB 2029. I have been a Nurse Practitioner for 26 years. I teach Nurse Practitioner students who want to provide care in rural Texas. It is a burden and decreases access to patients for their practice to be required to have a delegation mandate. As Nurse Practitioners we always get another opinion when needed from other Nurse Practitioners or Physicians. However it does not need to be mandated which is costly and time consuming. The VA has removed this mandate and 31 other states and the District of Columbia.

Please support more access and more options for Texas Patients.

---

Julio Lujano, Dr.

Self - Family Nurse Practitioner

San Antonio, TX

I ask that you recognize today's opportunity to help millions of Texans living in health care shortage areas. Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) can help. We are a body of professionals already practicing at all levels of health care and have been doing so for the past half a century. We practice in urban and rural settings alike. We care for patients in hospitals, clinics, non-profit organizations, correctional facilities, government agencies, and even at The Texas Capitol where you are today. Patients often choose to see us instead of our colleague physicians because of the dedicated and remarkable services we are trained to provide. You'll hear noise from the opposing side on how our profession should remain bound to physicians by means of a "collaborating agreement" which is a delegating mandate currently necessary for us to practice in Texas. However, there are 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia who have already removed such barriers and never met a need to reverse the statute. The opposition will cite physicians have the necessary training to supervise our practice, but this is just a distraction and encourage you to question their motives thoroughly by requesting a PEER REVIEWED source to corroborate their statement. On the contrary, such literature supports equal patient outcomes when you compare interventions done by APRNs and physicians. A major impetus for the opposition to so fervently hold their ground stems from a more financial underpinning. You see every physician can extend their license (in-writing-only) to 7 full-time equivalent APRNs and charge a hefty fee for a simple signature on paper. By supporting HB2029, they will no longer be able to charge their outrageous fees for said delegation agreement. I'd like to underscore the fact that supporting HB2029 does not add or remove any skills in the scope of practice as outlined by The Texas Board of Nursing. House Bill 2029 will not grant me the privilege to do surgery or deliver a baby because my scope of practice as a Family Nurse Practitioner is in primary care. That does not change. That's my specialty and I'm very proud of it. House Bill 2029 gives more options to Texans when their physician says they are booked for a week forcing them to either wait to be evaluated or go to the emergency room for a problem they have right now. I remind you that 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia have already removed this unnecessary barrier to APRN practice. Texas doesn't have to be at the bottom when it comes to health care. Texas can be the 32nd state to adopt full practice authority for APRNs and send a message to Texans that help is on the way. I welcome any questions on this matter and would love to meet you in person to discuss this more at length.

Please support more access and more options for Texans and support HB 2029.

In Duty and Respect,  
Dr. Lujano

---

Nicole Anderson

self nurse practitioner

Houston, TX

I am writing in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in healthcare shortage areas and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Demetria Castellon, Ms.

Self, ACNP

El paso, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Abigail Roszak

Self/ Nurse Practitioner

Pearland, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Joycelyn Elaiho, Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner, Advanced Practice Nurse

Self, Certified Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

Castroville, TX

Nurse practitioner have proven their ability to provide the highest quality care while serving/caring for our patients for years! Most recently we demonstrated our ability to care for families during the Covid Pandemic! There are more patients and families who desperately need our care to elevate their quality of healthcare. WE are ready to serve as independent practitioners as others do in many other states already! TEXAS is ready! I pray this legislation is approved and allows us to do what we are fully trained and capable of doing.

---

Kelly Oliver

Self

Galveston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Tonya Sawyer-McGee, DNP, MBA, MSN, RN, ACNP

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Prosper, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Healthcare needs are increasing due to the influx of new citizens from other states and countries and more doctors are specialists limiting primary care for millions of Texans. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. These states have recognized the value that APRNs can provide to the healthcare industry. As an NP myself, I have worked with many physicians who trust my judgment in providing care...especially after almost 20 years of practice as an NP. If residents can complete training to become a doctor and practice independently, APRNs should be afforded the same opportunity. Additionally, RNs provide care to patients daily without direct physician oversight, yet those with advanced training such as APRNs beyond a RN are limited in scope of practice and require more oversight.

Ultimately, the financial strain on government funding, healthcare systems, physician burnout, and healthcare outcomes can be improved. We have already proven this in many research studies done and organizations such as the Institute of Medicine have written reports on our value to the medical community and society.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Phillip Bowden

self

Bellaire, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas and need more access to care. APRNs can help. The state of Texas needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Kelli Dahlgren

Self

Del Rio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. This is more important than ever with current pandemic. I'd you do your research, you will see APRNs provide comparable outcomes to physicians. It's time to put people first, not medical organizations, which is the only reason we still have this mandate.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Annie Abraham, FNP

Self, Nurse Practitioner Faculty, Assistant Clinical Professor at Baylor University

Wylie, TX

Please do away with delegation requirements for APRNs. APRNs can help provide high quality health care to millions of Texans live in health care shortage.

---

karen wolters

Brazos Valley Nurse Practitioners Association

College Station, TX

Please consider support of HB 2029

---

Jamai Freeman, RN MS FNPC

Self, Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioner

Gainesville, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Karla Smith-Lucas

Nurse Practitioners

Richardson, TX

I am here today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. I can help. To do this, first the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Nicole Lovell, APRN, FNP-C

Self, nurse practitioner

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

ELIZABETH RUSHING

TNP

Hewitt, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs help. To be the most efficient and cost effective, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A., all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Deep pocketed medical associations should not restrict the practice of another profession through political manipulation. Documented studies demonstrate the safety and efficacy of APRNs when permitted to practice independently as respected professionals.

---

Lydia Chapa-Wilson

Little Spurs Urgent Care

san antonio, TX

1. Nurse practitioners are the professionals training/precepting medical students and medical residents
  2. Nurse practitioners will be the ones taking care of all of the immigrants flooding in to Texas
  3. Nurse practitioners are the backbone for primary care.
- 

Lauryn Rodriguez, Ms.

Self RN

Laredo, TX

Autonomy for Advance Practice Registered Nurses

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William Walkup, ARNP, FNP-C

Self

Pottsboro, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A., all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. Thank you.

---

Monica McKitterick-Smith, APRN

Impact Family Wellness

Cedar Park, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. I have practiced in 3 full practice authority states prior to moving to Texas and I find the regulations to hinder patient access to care. Please support access to exceptional care for all of Texas residents by supporting HB 2029

---

ghouse shaik

TNP

Houston, TX

I hope this Bill will and helps to provide basic health care safely in rural and city areas with afoordable price.

---

Kimberly Shafer, Nurse Practitioner

Self

Granbury, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Previously I owned a small family practice in Big Spring Texas. When acquiring a supervising physician there is no limitations as to the fee they require to provide delegation services. Also, the limitations to the number of mid levels one physician can supervise creates another barrier ,

Thank you

---

Iris Boyd, FNP

TNP

Loraine, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Benjamin Caldwell, Mr

Self

Malakoff, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Meredith Tompkins

self/nurse practitioner

Austin, TX

Texans deserve to have more choices in their healthcare providers. Passing this bill will increase access to nurse practitioners to underserved Texans. Texas should join the VA and 31 other states with modernizing the laws for healthcare access.

---

Kylie Lin

self

Temple, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Nadia Samari, RN -Family Nurse Practitioner



Self

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

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Leah Wilson, Dr

Self

Frisco, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Leah Wilson DNP, APRN  
11529 La Cantera Trail  
Frisco, TX 76033

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Melanie Schaab

Self, FNP

McKinney, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Vanessa Odders

Self, registered nurse

Richmond, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Wendy Wilson  
Consortium of Texas Certified Nurse-Midwives  
Austin, TX

SUPPORT

---

Jonathan Richey  
Dermatology Specialists of McKinney  
McKinney, TX

I have worked with Advanced practice registered nurses. I worry that the care of patients will suffer without the supervision of a duly trained medical provider (physician). I frequently care for patients who have been cared for by APRN's and have to change the patient treatment or correct errors that have been made on a more frequent basis compared to those who have spent greater time training and specializing.

---

Michael Watson, Dr.  
Texas Nurse Practitioners  
Simms, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Christy Watson  
Self  
Simms, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Karen Wolters, Family Nurse Practitioner  
Brazos Valley Nurse Practitioners Association  
College Station, TX

I am writing in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas and APRNs can help. But first, the state

needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the VA, all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia have already done.

Please support access for all Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Kathryn Keels, Ms

Self, registered nurse/nurse practitioner student

Corsicana, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Amanda Felix, DNP, PMHNP, AGNP

Self, Nurse Practitioner

Dallas, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Sue Potts

Self- certified nurse midwife

Katy, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. This step will benefit the health and well being of many Texans.

As a certified nurse midwife, it is relevant to note that the national professional organization for board certified OB-GYNs, ACOG, has issued a statement in support of full practice authority for APRNs.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Cris Klinkner

Nurse Practitioners of Texas

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. Thanks!!!

Branch Willis, Nurse Practitioner

Self

Conroe, TX

Hello,

I am writing to respectfully ask you to vote to remove the onerous regulations on advanced practice nurses that require them to maintain an agreement with a physician supervisor. This regulation very well may have been needed decades ago before advanced practice nurses were required to have graduate degrees and when training may not have been as extensive as it has been for the past 25 years or more.

However, advanced practice nurses in the workforce today have either a masters or doctoral degree with extensive training in their respective roles.

Many independent studies have confirmed that primary care provided by nurse practitioners is equivalent to that of physicians. To date, 31 states, the VA, and all branches of the military have removed the outdated requirement of physician supervision. This is the only profession that I know of where your ability to work and earn a living is wholly dependent upon maintaining a contractual relationship with a peer who is basically in a very similar line of work.

Nurse practitioners who operate their own clinic must hire a physician to be their supervisor.

Consider the oxymoronic nature of this fact. That we must hire our own supervisor, and pay them \$1,000 or more dollars per month to satisfy a bureaucratic requirement. This regulation has no improved effect on patient outcomes. Just as your primary care physician has likely done for you at some time, when we see a condition that needs specialist referral, we arrange the referral to get the patient taken care of appropriately.

The current regulations greatly limit access to primary care in rural and underserved areas, where many physicians choose not to practice.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Branch Willis APRN

---

Steven Powell

Texas Nurses Association/Self/Registered Nurse

Houston, TX

Dear Texas Lawmakers,

As a member of the Texas Nurses Association, I HIGHLY encourage you to support HB 2029 by House Public Health Chair Stephanie Klick when it comes up for consideration today in the House Public Health Committee.

Texas House Bill 2029 would remove unnecessary, unfair and burdensome barriers to APRNs practicing to the full extent of their education & experience. Additionally it would increase access to health care for Texans. Our great state currently ranks dead last in the nation for healthcare access according to recent research by the Commonwealth Fund (51st to be precise, we are even behind Washington D.C.)

Supporting HB 2029 allows APRNs to perform the work they're already doing, without the unnecessary administrative and financial burdens that restrict health care to Texans, particularly those in underserved areas. These barriers currently encourage APRNs to leave Texas in droves to practice in states that have ended physician delegation requirements. None of those 31 states have seen an increase in malpractice or safety issues since removing barriers to APRN practice. This includes Washington D.C. and the Department of Veterans Affairs, the largest healthcare provider in the nation with numerous facilities operating throughout Texas in a manner that HB 2029 would provide for the whole state.

HB 2029 removes outdated, over regulatory and unnecessary constraints on APRN practice while increasing options for quality

health care to all Texans, no matter where they live.

I encourage you to support HB 2029 when it is scheduled for your consideration today. Removing the excessive regulations that prevent APRNs from practicing to the full scope of their education will be beneficial for all Texans in search of health care.

Thank you very much your consideration, and my greatest appreciation to all who support!

Sincerely,

Steven D. Powell, MSN, RN, MEDSURG-BC, CRRN, NHDP-BC

---

Robert Kaufman, Aprn  
Texas nurse practitioners  
El paso, TX

I am writing to support HB 2029.

I work in a underserved area, I serve thousands of patients with low cost healthcare.

Many would simply have no health care in this area if I didn't work here.

This bill needs to finally be passed and remove these outdated, unnecessary restrictions. These restriction make it very difficult for me to provide care the patients desperately need.

Please pass this Bill.

---

Holly DiLeo, Dr.  
Self  
Helotes, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Arjana Amataj  
RN/self  
Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Doris Poston, FNP  
Texas Nurse Practitioners  
Giddings, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Julie Luke, CPNP

Pediatric Nurse Practitioner/Self

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Cathryn Fuqua, AAPRN

Texas Nurse Practitioner

Melissa, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. Thank you.

---

Juliana Amuzu-Doe, RN

TNA

Beaumont, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Linda Waters, RN, CFNP

Texas Nurse Practitioners

WICHITA FALLS, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Lisa Fierro, AGACNP

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Pflugerville, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Cydney Calderon

Self- RN

Round Rock, TX

As in other states, a new APRN should be working in contract with an experienced APRN or physician at the start of their practice. After a period of time, such as 3 years as in Colorado's practice, the APRN should be allowed to work in full practice alone if no licensing or malpractice issues come up in the 3 years.

---

Adherbal De Souza Neto

self

Houston, TX

As an Advanced practice registered nurse doctorally prepared (APRN - DNP), I would request the State of Texas to consider giving full authority to APRNs to practice to the full extent of their license. I would like to bring to the attention that nursing is the only profession in which another profession try to dictate or impose authority. APRNs in 31 states are already contributing without restrictions to the health care system in a safe and competent manner. There is true collaboration in those places. While one can't dispute MDs and DOs have studied more, APRNs to achieve their degree also have to acquire a bachelors usually 4 years and then continue for about another 3. Furthermore, most of us have had a few years of experience in the field prior to continuing our education. Interesting to bring the point that many doctors that oppose to giving us full authority are the same ones who depended on nurses to acquire their practical knowledge while in training and when they are still green behind their ears. A point brought frequently is safety for the public. Interesting that many doctors who enforce the present system do not really monitor APRNs. Many hire and delegate to medical assistants (MAs) or other less qualified professionals. That is where the public should demand a change with more restrictive laws. However, they monitor their accounts from the contracts with the APRNs. From an APRN perspective, when I face doubt in relation to a patient, I am the first to conference with many other colleagues including physicians. I do have a referral system. I am proud to report I have helped many people who visited not one but several physicians related to their feelings - hormonal related and as the diagnosis was only based on lab results with normal limits, the patients were discredited by their physician "You are we fine, don't worry!" Perhaps, APRNs do dedicate more time, listen, conference, do act as patients advocates as all of us in the health care system should be doing. Finally, I find it is a shame we are not respecting and valuing each other in health care. We should be collaborating with each other in the true sense of the word to help the patients. With the COVID era, it is time we positively change the system. APRNs are responsible, caring, dedicated, and competent professionals and should be respected as such. APRNs already do the job, all it is missing is to have the thumb removed so we can be accountable and autonomous to help the people of Texas!

---

Christina De los Santos

Self

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of

Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Sherika Taylor, MS, APRN, FNP-C

Self

Wylie, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Delores Rodriguez

SELF EMPLOYED

LAREDO, TX

I am supporting HB 2029 to remove delegation mandates for APRN's. This is badly needed in order to provide increased access and more health care options for Texas patients.. Thank you.

I have been an APRN since 1998 and believe this will truly benefit health care opportunities for Texans. Delores V. Rodriguez  
APRN FNP MSN

---

Terry Sampson, Family Nurse Practitioner

Self family nurse practitioner

Garland, TX

I support HB 2029. Texas has been last in most measures of quality health care for generations. It's time to mix it up and unleash its licensed nurse practitioners to provide the quality, cost effective medical care our citizens deserve. Let NPs lead the way. Unleash our occupation from control by another profession. It's anticompetitive and likely illegal!

---

AMANDA MORGAN

Self nurse practitioner

Amarillo, TX

Texas needs full practice authority. Nurse practitioners are trained and pass rigorous testing to obtain our advanced practice license. With restrictions to practice we are limited in our ability to provide services to Texas residents. We have to pay physicians to allow us to practice and a lot of them ask for a percentage of our income from our patients as well and restricts where we can provide our services.

---

Sharon Talbert, np pain mgmt

NTP and NTNP

Murphy, TX



We deserve the right to work to our educational level of advanced practice in caring for our patients.

---

Julie Odders, Mrs  
Self Office Manager  
Willow Park, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Tammy Harris  
Self, Office Manager  
Garland, TX

I support Nurse Practitioners being able to care for patients without the governing body of a supervising physician.

---

Richard Beck  
Self, business owner  
HOUSTON, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Texas APRNs are no different than those in 31 other states, DC, the military and VA including APRNs working at the VA in Houston and other Texas locations are successfully and safely practicing independently. It is time.

---

Robert Barrera, Paramedic  
Self Paramedic  
Laredo, TX

Autonomy for Advanced practice registered nurses.

---

Erin Madsion  
self, Advance Practice Registered Nurse  
San Antonio, TX

Any health care provider, from a medical assistant to a physician, is required by law and ethically bound to provide safe care to all people and practice within his training and scope of practice. It is the duty of the health care provider to know his role and

perform it well. Providing healthcare access to all people is a challenge as there is already a physician workforce shortage and an expected increase in the demand for primary care (Xue et al., 2015). This creates a strain within the healthcare system. This demand to expand primary care capacity to provide quality care to all people can be met by utilizing the APRN effectively within healthcare. However, maximizing the effectiveness of the APRN is significantly limited by scope of practice regulations in the state of Texas. In a journal article entitled "Impact of state nurse practitioner scope-of-practice regulation on health care delivery: Systematic review", the authors discovered that "supporting an expanded scope of practice for NPs is an extensive body of evidence that has consistently demonstrated comparable performance between NPs and PCPs [primary care providers] on clinical outcomes, including reduction of symptoms, improvement in health and functional status, and mortality. In addition, patients seen by NPs generally report higher satisfaction" (Xue et al., 2015). Accordingly, there is evidence that suggests that APRNs promote care provision in rural and medically underserved areas when the state has a less restrictive scope of practice (Xue et al., 2015). This is ethically and legally significant as rural and underserved populations are in need of access to quality healthcare that is currently very restricted for various factors within the state of Texas. If the scope of practice of the APRN is expanded as proposed in HB 2029 then access to healthcare is opened allowing for more people to be treated for acute and chronic conditions. This in turn enables the healthcare providers to give quality and safe care to more people without being overly stretched to do so. Thank you for promoting the APRN role in the state of Texas. Making Texas a full practice authority state will improve access to healthcare for all Texans!

---

Michael Ryan, APRN, FNP-C

Self/APRN, FNP

Shavano Park, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Alvin Mena Cantero, CEO, DNP

Alvin Clinica Familiar,inc

Houston, TX

I, Dr. Alvin Mena Cantero, CEO and DNP want to voice myself and advocate for my peers today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas and underserved communities, and APRNs are the best fit to solve this primary care gap. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate and collaborative MD-NP relationship just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. He has founded and owns a family practice clinic named Alvin Clinica Familiar (2016) aim to provide higher quality of healthcare to underserved communities in Houston, but continuing providing such services all over Texas. We have sponsored around 18 donation fairs and 32 community health fairs to enhance disease prevention within homeless, veterans and elderly population. We also created a Clinic-Faculty in 2016 and thanks to this initiative, he has served as a clinical mentor for more than 175 students from different universities with a total of 18,000 hours precept. Dr. Mena has exhibited an effective leadership during flooding episodes after Harvey Hurricane in Jasper, Wharton, Huntsville, Waco, Temple, Bryan, Port Arthur and Galveston, but an emergency contingency plan discussed with community leaders and more than \$18,000 dollars donated in free office visits. He has showed marked extraordinary effort and advocacy during "Coronavirus-19 pandemic" and recently "Artic storm" by treating around 200 to 280 patients per week through Face-Face, Telehealth and Telemedicine at his office and Memorial Hermann Hospital since the very first beginning of pandemic in our city. He still works 70 to 75 hours per week aim to provide best healthcare services, early covid detection, disease prevention and healthcare promotion until nowadays. Dr. Cantero has also provided international volunteer fairs and mission trips sponsored by himself to Mexico, Egypt, Slovenia/Croatia, China, Honduras, India, Cuba, Guatemala, Morocco, Puerto Rico,

Salvador and recently Cambodia and Thailand. He still provides bilingual education about disease prevention and promotion throughout radio and television from "The Note Houston". Dr. Alvin completed 6846 of urgent care service, 9647 volunteer hours within veteran and homeless shelters, 13,636 hours services for community activities, and a total of 17,924 patients evaluated with 100 % of satisfaction as per more than 360 Google, Yelp and Facebook reviews from Alvin Clinica Familiar. He was selected as LEAD AWARD (2018) as TOP LEADER UNDER 35 YEARS OLD, also FINALIST for RISING STAR AWARD-HEALTHCARE HEROES (HBJ-2018), SILVER MEDALIST IN EXCELLENCE AWARD (GOOD-SAMARITHAN-2019), AMERICA'S TOP NP AWARD (POCN-2019) and COMMUNITY IMPACT AWARD (TEXAS NURSE PRACTITIONERS-2020), but also recently HONOREE AS HEAD OF DIVERSITY IN DIVERSITY IN BUSINESS AWARD (HBJ-2021). The well-being of Texans is in your hand, its time to remove any barriers for NPs to provide healthcare to our people

---

Lisa DAVIS-Sampert

Self Family Nurse Practitioner

Denison, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. Thank you.

---

Lisa Brittmon

Self; Family Nurse Practitioner

Mckinney, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Shelagh Larson, DNP, APRN, WHNP

Acclaim Physician Group

Fort Worth, TX

I am writing today in support of HB2029 removing the barriers to licensure for nurse practitioners in Texas. I have worked at JPS in Tarrant County for over 15 years. We have seen the limitations this Bill would solve. Many physicians that sign up to be a supervisor are not in the same same clinic as the NPs. They do see their patients. As many physician leave the family practice clinics, this leaves these nurses practitioners without "supervisor" thus bars to see the patients on their templates or new patients. This prevents the large hospitals from increasing the number of patients visits by limiting the number of NP to available physician ratio. JPS had to close down 18 School Based pediatric clinics because of lack of physician supervisors. The children of Tarrant County were the losers.

---

Crissie Richardson, RN

Texas Emergency Nurses Association

Salado, TX

I am writing in support of HB 2029. Texas House Bill 2029 would remove unnecessary and unfair barriers to APRNs practicing to the full extent of their education and increase access to health care for Texans.

Supporting HB 2029 allows APRNs to perform the work they're already doing, without the unnecessary administrative and financial burdens that restrict health care to Texans, particularly those in underserved areas. These barriers encourage APRNs to leave Texas in droves to practice in states that have ended physician delegation requirements. None of those 31 states, including Washington D.C. and the V.A., have seen an increase in malpractice or safety issues since removing barriers to APRN practice.

HB 2029 removes outdated and unnecessary constraints on APRN practice while increasing options for quality health care to all Texans, no matter where they live.

I encourage you to support HB 2029 when it is scheduled for your consideration today. Removing the excessive regulations that prevent APRNs from practicing to the full scope of their education will be beneficial for all Texans in search of health care.

---

Kendall Wines

Self

Lubbock, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Leigh Spivey

self

Lott, TX

Please support HB 2029. I have been a nurse practitioner for 21 years and I am encouraging all to support HB2029 for independent practice to allow improved health care and accessible health care to all Texans.

---

Kelli Short

Self/Nurse Practitioner

Cameron, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Jeff Guillory, APRN

Self - Nurse Practitioner

Lumberton, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military and the District of Columbia already have.

Please improve access to care for Texans by allowing nurse practitioners to practice at the full extent of their education.

Put Texas at the forefront of improving health care.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Wanda Tamayo, MSN APRN CPNP AC

Pediatric Nurse Practitioners-NAPNAP

San Antonio, Texas 78232, TX

This bill is critical to the care of our growing population! Currently we are the most restrictive state in the US. We are not governed by the TMA yet they are the ones lobbying against our independent practice. They do not write or laws or education. They do not and are not willing to go above and beyond in the community. With our crisis at the boarder you cannot ignore the need for indigent and . During the rural healthcare. During the Covid crisis it was nurses and nurse practitioners that responded and travelled to NY and Louisiana to serve in the critical needs areas. Other states recognize the need and have adjusted the laws to accommodate the smart and practical approach to utilizing Nurse Practitioners in independent practice. The infrastructure and education is in place. Please vote to let us independently serve our state and continue our commitment.

Wanda Jean Tamayo MSN APRN CPNP AC

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John Mesa, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Self - Nurse Practitioner

Laredo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Terry Erwin, APRN

Nurse Practitioners

Mineral Wells, TX

I have been a bachelor degree prepared RN since 1998 and Master prepared APRN since 2013. I own a clinic in my rural community and serve over 4,000 patients. It is very frustrating to have to chase down a MD/DO to pay hundreds of dollars every month. He does not see my patients but his name is required for me to serve my community to full level of my experience and education. It is an unnecessary barrier to health care access. My 23 years of combined bedside nursing is superior to the 10,000 hour residency of MD/DO, that is 10 years my junior. Please consider removing Practice Barriers on NP with more than 3 years Advanced Practice Experience. Measurement of outcomes and safe practice oversight studies have proven care given by NP is equal, and in most cases superior, to care delivered by MD/DO. Thank you for reviewing my input.

---

Audra Deardorf, Family Nurse Practitioner

Self

CORPUS CHRISTI, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Julia Hoy  
Self nurse practitioner  
Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Teresa Etherton, FNP-C  
Cenikor  
Jonestown, TX

Practicing independently currently without direct supervision.

---

Corene Crouse  
self, nurse practitioner  
Archer City, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

LAUREN GAUDETTE  
Christian Motorcycle Association  
NACOGDOCHES, TX

Please support this bill- it will provide greater access to health care in this state. It is essential that our citizens receive comprehensive care

---

Josephine Arnold  
Self-Nurse  
San Antonio, TX

Please consider removing barriers to independent practice. The National Academy of Sciences has rightly called medical board control of another professional groups practice turf guarding, suggesting that the DOJ pursue the issue as restraint of trade. This began with the AMA's political action to end community nursing work in the 1920s with the defunding of the Sheppard Towner act. The health of women and children plummeted but medical costs increased and this satisfied the AMA. It has been nearly 100 years and we are still paying the increased costs in lives, suffering, access to care, and cost of care. We cannot undo the past but we can move forward with the right choice for a healthy Texas. I respectfully ask you to consider the health of Texas by

removing barriers to practice for nurse practitioners. Unlike medicine, NPs train in an apprenticeship model with work based experience and completely adequate education and credentialing for our limited scope practice. NPs do practice within the scope of that training. One may have independent license in multiple other states. Yet, because of Texas residence, these providers cannot practice independently. Imagine driving cross country. I can drive with my drivers license in AZ and NM, but when I cross into Texas, I must relinquish the wheel to someone less familiar with the vehicle and the road, and who is driving through the rear view mirror. Physician oversight is chart review in retrospect, after the fact... through the rear view mirror. How can you justify that this improves patient safety? It IS restraint of trade and it is time for Texas to leave the 1920s patriarchal model of caring for patients. Please grant nurse practitioners full practice authority - please allow us to practice, within our scope, as we have been educated and trained. Thank you.

---

Omer Chowdhury, Dr.

Self - Physician

Dallas, TX

My name is Dr. Omer Chowdhury and I am a Resident Physician in East Texas. In the midst of a pandemic, I am saddened to hear about HB 2029. Now, more than ever, we need qualified physicians in the workforce to not only tackle COVID19 but the different variants that will undoubtedly emerge in the future. In 2020, at the height of the pandemic, myself and hundreds of thousands of my colleagues graduated medical school and were placed on the frontlines of the battle as Resident Physicians. Although daunting, each and every one of us were prepared for the challenge, and we owe it all to our training and education. I took an oath when I earned my medical degree to always be an advocate for my patients. First rule of medicine is to "do no harm." APRNs pose a risk for patients. The education models of APRNs are NOT standardized. Many APRNs receive education online with little to no patient interaction. A typical physician (MD or DO) has approximately 12K-16K clinical hours as opposed to only 500-700 clinical hours for a NP.

Many would argue that NPs provide increased access to healthcare. However, this is entirely false. As doctors, we are taught to practice evidence based medicine, based on trials and studies. There are no studies which show that NPs go to rural areas in any greater numbers than physicians.

So what is the solution? The solution to physician shortage and lack of access to healthcare is not to prematurely grant APRNs greater provider scope at the expense of patient safety. The answer is to increase number of medical schools and Residency positions. Each year, thousands of qualified physicians go unmatched. This is a travesty. The answer to physician shortage is to have more physicians, not replace them with APRNs who lack the education and training.

Throughout the board, many organizations oppose this bill. I hope Rep. Klick and supporters of the HB 2029 bill listen to the voices of hundreds of thousands of physicians AND APRNs who oppose this bill. I am a proud Texan! My family immigrated to the US in 2001 and chose Texas as our home. Part of my decision to become a physician was to serve my community - one which has given me so much.

Please oppose HB 2029, so that our patients may receive the great care they deserve.

Thank you.

---

Lena Rippstein, Ph.D.

Self

Kerrville, TX

I am writing in support of HB 2029. It would help alleviate the healthcare shortage areas that exists in this State. 31 states, DC, the military and VA have all removed the delegation mandate.

---

Elizabeth Flynn, APRN

self

Waco, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. I greatly appreciate your consideration of this important bill. Thank you for your service.

---

Barbara Miller

Self

Ovilla, TX

I have been a practicing Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners for over 20 years. Even my Supervising physician believes in the independent practice of a APN . With the shortage of psychiatric providers this in and of itself is I humane.

---

Amy Chamberlain, Member

Texans for Midwifery

Austin, TX

As consumers who value the Midwives Model of Care provided by Certified Nurse Midwives in Texas, we support this bill to allow CNMs, as APRNs, to practice to the full extent of their education and expertise.

---

Barbara Chapman, Dr

Self / Family Nurse Practitioner

Richardson, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Sheila Arnaud, APRN,FNP-BC

Texas Nurse Practitioners, self

Orange, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. I have practiced as an APRN for 20 years providing for indigent, underinsured, and insured patients. It's been difficult navigating these patients through the healthcare system. The requirements for a physician to order or sign off on medical documents is horrendous when they are not providing the care for the patient. I have met with the physician and discussed patient charts to meet the delegation mandate. I have not seen how discussing this with the delegation physician has changed the patients plan of care. If I am concern about a patient I consult a specialist and refer them accordingly.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---



Theresa Lyons

Self / Nurse Practitioner

Boerne, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

As a family nurse practitioner in the great state of Texas I have practiced fulltime for 13 years in a variety of primary care roles. I have never been sued nor has my license been brought to the board in question for wrongdoing. I diligently and responsibly manage my patients just as I know is true for many other nurse practitioners in the state of Texas. My hands have been tied at times in rural settings to do something as simple as signing a DNR which I appropriately informed my patients about. I have respected my knowledge and authority, seeking assistance when needed and would continue to do so without the need for the state to mandate that collegial relationship. The data on outcomes for nurse practitioners continues to be strong in study after study that we have the same or better than our MD colleagues. We are happy and willing to serve in underserved and rural areas where MDs choose to avoid. I completed an HRSA commitment early in my career and continue to work with an underserved community. Please consider that many other states are leading the way in this independent practice movement. Please consider that agreements and probationary periods can be instituted for nurse practitioners to prove their worth and ability if you are concerned that blanket approval for novel nurse practitioners. Please consider the Veterans Administration in Texas is already allowing nurse practitioners to practice independently after a probationary period for our veterans. Please consider the truth and data in your decision and do not be swayed by outlying stories presented on individual cases. The residents of Texas deserve unencumbered access to care which nurse practitioners provide.

I vote too!

Theresa Lyons, RN, FNP-C

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Scott Smith

Self

Fort Worth, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Kayla Pickney, RN

Self - RN

Texarkana, TX

am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Amy Bond, FNP-C

Self

Little Elm, TX

I support Texas AP nurses.

---

Eileen Breslin

Self and member Nursing Legislative Coalition

San Antonio, TX

As a nurse practitioner who has practiced in a full scope authority state, I strongly encourage you support this bill. Removing those barrier will improve access to care, reduce cost and improve quality of care.

---

Cynde Schneider, FNP-C

self-Advanced Practice Nurse

Lamesa, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Joseph Micci, APRN

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Colleyville, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Maureen Beck, Assistant Professor. Gerontological Nurse Practitioner

Self Gerontological Nurse Practitioner

HOUSTON, TX

I am writing in support of HB 2029. As a Gerontological Nurse Practitioner in Houston, I work with a fragile population. There are not enough geriatric specialists in Houston or Texas or the country. As you know there are many counties where there are few providers and NPs can help. As an NP I have limitations on my practice due to delegation rules that impact my patients and the care I provide through house calls and in my office practice. I can not even write a prescription for aspirin without indicating my supervising physician. My patients have to wait for a signature from the physician I work with to allow the home health to continue or get a wheelchair. Due to delegation, many NPs have to spend thousands of dollars to contract with a physician to sign forms on patients the physicians never see. Please support HB 2029.

---

Mary Addison Watson

Self

Simms, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Rachel Reitan, Dr.

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Wichita Falls, TX

As a doctorate prepared nurse practitioner in North Texas, I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

The constant legal obstacles not only I, but my supervising physicians, and the health care facilities have to navigate have an unnecessary strain and stress that affects the care our patients receive.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Breann Finstad, MSN, APRN, FNP-C

Texas Nurse Practitioner

Clifton, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Denise Goddard, Dr

self- Professor and Board-Certified Family Nurse Practitioner

Godley, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. I have been a Nurse Practitioner for 15 years...Not once has a MD ever seen or intervened in the care of my patients. But, as it is now, I can't practice without paying a MD who has nothing to do with my practice. I also teach Graduate nursing students in the FNP track and can attest to the intelligence, dedication to patients, and the strict adherence to established standards of care guidelines.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Amanda Payne, APRN, AGPC-NP-BC

UnitedHealth Group Optum/APRN, Nurse Practitioner

Eddy, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Trent Carter

All Nurse Practitioners in Texas

Fort Worth, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Rebecca Parson, RN-FNP Student

Self

Iola, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Claudia Ramos-Otero, FNO

Self

Houston, TX

I support HB 2029

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Cynthia Hughs

self, Family Nurse Practitioner

Trent, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Todd Stricherz

self

Bryan, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Megan Wheeler, APRN

Self - Advanced Practice Registered Nurse

Waxahachie, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Sativa Lackey, FNP-C

self APRN FNP-C

burnet, TX

I live and work in a rural rea in central Texas. It is of utmost importance to allow Nurse Practitioner's full practice authority. Medical doctors are difficult to employee in the small towns and communities. Nurse Practitioners offer excellent medical care with proven decision making abilities that can decrease the gap in the healthcare shortage. Please consider this bill

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Larry Hamberlin, FNP-C, DC, PhD

Self, private practitioner, family care

Forney, TX

Please support this bill. Bring Texas in line with multiple states and remove outdated restrictions and regulations. Please do not let opposition sway your opinion solely based on control and money. That has been the norm far too long in Texas. Have the courage to do what is right for the people.

---

Jessica Wright, APRN FNP-C

Self

Leander, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Carmen Addington

self (Nurse Practitioner) & Texas Nurse Practitioners

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Shannon Burgess

NP

Fort Worth, TX

House Bill 2029. This is a bill that removes physicians to 'oversee' nurse practitioners. They get a % of our reimbursement even though they never see our patients.

---

Madisen Hall, MSN, APRN, AGACNP-BC

Self, NP

San Antonio, TX

I am writing in support today of HB2029. Millions of Texans live in healthcare shortage areas and APRNs can help.

---

Nathanial Kamerick, RN

Ascension Seton Healthcare

AUSTIN, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

APRNs give just as effective and safe care as physicians, and the more access patients have to APRNs, the better.

---

Rachel Hyde, APRN, CNM

Self, CERTIFIED NURSE MIDWIFE

Mansfield, TX

I support this bill.

---

Fawn Willard, Family Nurse Practitioner

Self/nurse practitioner

Haslet, TX

Please vote in favor of nurse practitioners practicing independently as 31 states have already done. It will allow more options and more access for patients.

---

Jill MacPherson, Dr.

self and nurse practitioner

CANYON LAKE, TX

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for the opportunity to request your support to approve HB 2029 to remove outdated, unnecessary mandates requiring Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) to have a contract with a physician in order to care for patients. The Department of Defense (DOD) and the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) have removed these arduous restrictions. This is because APRNs are competent clinicians and provide increased access to care to those who serve and who have served. In Texas, we are last in access to care for mental health services (Statesman) and we rank in the bottom ten percent in access to healthcare (Becker's Hospital Review).

Nationally, the United States spends more money than any other country on healthcare and our health outcomes do not reflect the investment. The VHA has recognized this and is changing the health care culture to empowering their patients to take an active role in their health care. Studies are showing that this paradigm is improving health care outcomes by decreasing opioid use as one example. APRNs are expert in patient empowerment and encouraging self-care, focusing on prevention and treating patients across the health-illness continuum. Removing outdated regulations, nurse practitioners can be more effective for Texas to save money and to increase positive health care outcomes through their education and training. As nurses are the most trusted profession nationally for 19 years in a row, noted for their compassion, honesty, advocacy and ethical standards (Forbes, John Hopkins Nursing), it is time to remove the antiquated barriers that exist in Texas for APRNs. Texans need to be empowered to have choice and to have access to healthcare without restrictions to see the clinician of their choosing.

Respectfully,

Jill MacPherson DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, AOCNP, NBC-HWC

---

Kimberly Klein

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Rowlett, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in healthcare shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A., all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia, already have.

Please support HB 2029, to support more access to Texans for healthcare.

---

Peggy Ostrander  
self-Family Nurse Practitioner  
Plano, TX

SUPPORT HB2029

Regarding Nurse Practitioner education-no one ever mentions the fact that APRNs already have a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing, which consists of thousands of hours of study and clinicals. Due to lack of nursing faculty, acceptance into a Nursing program is difficult and only the "cream of the crop" students with nearly perfect GPA's are accepted. The average APRN has been out working for several years before applying to a Masters program. Then a 2 1/2 Master's program, and many APRNs also hold Doctorates. APRN education is also competence based vs. "hours" based, meaning there are certain skills and procedures to learned, and they are repeated until mastered. This isn't a debate about competence, it's about competition.

---

Amanda Burkhalter  
Self and nurse practitioner  
La vernia, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.  
Thank you for your time and service!

---

Patricia Dugan, BSN, RN, FNP-Student  
Texas A&M University HSC  
Palestine, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Jessica Peck, Dr.  
The National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
Friendswood, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029.

The National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners (NAPNAP) urges Texas to remove barriers that prevent advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) from practicing to the full extent of their advanced education, national board certification and licensure as described in the Consensus Model. Barriers to practice result in patients having less access to high quality, affordable health care, especially in times of crisis.

Allowing NPs to practice without unnecessary barriers will improve the provider shortage problem by giving patients, especially those in underserved communities, greater access to the health care services they need. NPs graduate from nationally accredited graduate educational programs fully prepared to provide high-quality, evidenced-based and cost-effective care to geographically diverse populations. They complete a graduate nursing program that requires a mastery of nationally validated competencies and



competency-based standards. Their graduate academic programs include rigorous didactic and clinical experiences to prepare students for clinical practice. NP education tailors academic and clinical preparation to the needs of specific patient populations (e.g. family, pediatric [acute or primary care], women's health, adult-gerontology [acute or primary care], neonatal, and family psychiatric-mental health). Clinical hours are supervised by experienced clinical preceptors who emphasize the complexities of the health care delivery system, and interprofessional practice. Upon graduation, NP graduates are eligible to take an accredited national board certification test in their area of NP preparation and then obtain state licensure upon passage. More than fifty years of research has consistently demonstrated the excellent outcomes and high quality of care provided by NPs.

In 23 states and the District of Columbia, patients have full and direct access to NPs, providing consumers a choice of health care provider and strengthening patient access to care. Numerous studies show that states that have adopted this model are seeing the direct benefit of growing provider workforces to increase patients' access to safe, equitable, high quality, affordable health care. These states consistently rank high in many quality and access measures of health care.

NAPNAP calls upon state leaders in reduced or restricted practice states to follow the Institute of Medicine recommendation in The Future of Nursing report that "laws, regulations, and policies that prevent advanced practice registered nurses from providing the full scope of health care services they are educated and trained to provide should be removed" to benefit patients and communities within their states. All children deserve full and direct access to affordable, high-quality health care provided by pediatric-focused APRNs.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Cynthia Williams, RN AND Student PNP-PC

Self

Spicewood, TX

I am writing to you in support of HB 2029. As a soon to be APRN, it is important for me to be able to reach the underserved rural communities and provide access to care. Rural communities are one area where APRNs are very impactful and are willing to serve to promote health. APRNs are highly educated at the graduate and doctorate level including several years of patient care experience. We are willing, ready and able to tackle the health care obstacles and shortages facing our country by providing SAFE, EFFECTIVE care to the people. Untie our hands and let the most trusted profession continue to care for our communities by allowing full practice authority.

---

Carol Delville, PhD, APRN, ACNS-BC, FCNS

Self, Advanced Practice Nurse (Clinical Nurse Specialist - Gerontology focus)

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Texans experience daily health care shortages. APRNs can help. The state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Evidence demonstrates equivalent outcomes for patient care. Do not abandon our citizens - support APRN practice in Texas. I work with residents in long-term care that have multiple complex medical conditions. As an APRN I am able to work with these residents, meet their needs and improve their quality of health, function and life

---

Kathy Baker, PhD, APRN, ACNS-BC, FCNS, FAAN

Texas Christian University

ARLINGTON, TX

I am writing today in full support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of

Columbia have already done and with no untoward outcomes! There is no question that APRNs are educated, prepared, and ethically responsible to practice to their full scope and licensure. APRNs do not need supervision from another discipline to deliver quality care. We are collaborative with all members of the healthcare team, put our patients' safety first, and dedicated to fill the gaps in access to care across our state.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Lyndsey Gambill, R.N., Nurse Practitioner Student, Texas A & M University  
TAMU College of Nursing  
College Station, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. In order to overcome this obstacle, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please consider following the nursing framework of “patient-centered care” by considering the needs of our patients—they deserve unencumbered access and high quality options to meet their individual needs. Consider allowing licensed nurse practitioners to help meet this need by supporting HB 2029.

---

Vicki Brooks, Dr.  
Self  
Mineral Wells, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Adolfo Arteaga  
TNP  
Edinburg, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Tabitha Holman, FNP  
Self FNP  
Austin, TX

I am writing in support of HB 2029. Please let APRN practice to their full ability. Thank you!

---

Michelle Mourre  
AANP  
San Antonio, TX

Advanced nurse practitioners make a difference for Texas. It's time for Texas to join many other states in the United States of America and allow NPs to provide healthcare too many Texas residents in encumbered by the policies and politics that drive the TMA to stop NPs from providing equal if not better healthcare. I support this bill! Come on, Texas! Step up to the realities of the healthcare crisis. The aging population demands it. Many Physicians are refusing to accept Medicare! Time to support NPs in open scope of practice!!

---

Tracy Chamblee

Texas Clinical Nurse Specialists

Fort Worth, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas. APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Charles Lyons

Self

Boerne, TX

NPs should be allowed to practice without a MD supervision or having to pay a MD to check off on charts. This seems like a form of extortion from the medical Association.

---

Jessica Peck

Self- Pediatric Nurse Practitioner and Clinical Professor of Nursing

Friendswood, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029.

As a pediatric nurse practitioner, I urge Texas to remove barriers that prevent advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) from practicing to the full extent of their advanced education, national board certification and licensure as described in the Consensus Model. Barriers to practice result in patients having less access to high quality, affordable health care, especially in times of crisis.

Allowing Nurse Practitioners (NPs) to practice without unnecessary barriers will improve the provider shortage problem by giving patients, especially those in underserved communities, greater access to the health care services they need. NPs graduate from nationally accredited graduate educational programs fully prepared to provide high-quality, evidenced-based and cost-effective care to geographically diverse populations. They complete a graduate nursing program that requires a mastery of nationally validated competencies and competency-based standards. Their graduate academic programs include rigorous didactic and clinical experiences to prepare students for clinical practice. NP education tailors academic and clinical preparation to the needs of specific patient populations (e.g. family, pediatric [acute or primary care], women's health, adult-gerontology [acute or primary care], neonatal, and family psychiatric-mental health). Clinical hours are supervised by experienced clinical preceptors who emphasize the complexities of the health care delivery system, and interprofessional practice. Upon graduation, NP graduates are eligible to take an accredited national board certification test in their area of NP preparation and then obtain state licensure upon passage. More than fifty years of research has consistently demonstrated the excellent outcomes and high quality of care provided by NPs.

In 23 states and the District of Columbia, patients have full and direct access to NPs, providing consumers a choice of health care

provider and strengthening patient access to care. Numerous studies show that states that have adopted this model are seeing the direct benefit of growing provider workforces to increase patients' access to safe, equitable, high quality, affordable health care. These states consistently rank highly in many quality and access measures of health care.

Texas state legislators should follow the Institute of Medicine recommendation in The Future of Nursing report that "laws, regulations, and policies that prevent advanced practice registered nurses from providing the full scope of health care services they are educated and trained to provide should be removed" to benefit patients and communities within their states. All children deserve full and direct access to affordable, high-quality health care provided by pediatric-focused APRNs.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Edith Umeh, FNP

HANP

Houston, TX

I am writing for the HB 2029 to be abolished, the HB that is requiring APRN to pay and have supervising physician before they could see their patients. This bill is blocking/preventing most residents of Texas access to health care they desperately need. It is outdated and unnecessary. Most states (31) in USA who honor our request have made healthcare affordably to many of their residents why not Texas. This is also making medical care to be monopolized by this MDs, my NP friend had one retired MD charging her \$2000/month for the supervision, is that fair?

---

chris divin

Self FNP-BC

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Michelle Fisher, APRN

Self Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Lumberton, TX

I have wanted to serve my community by providing mental health care for over a year. I have been trying to find a supervising physician without success. The price of a supervising physician is 5 thousand dollars per month. That is more than I would actually make because I want to see children on Medicaid and allow for more affordable prices for those without insurance coverage. I am unable to help my community by treating their mental health needs because of the requirement to have a supervising physician. I have the experience and education as an advanced practice registered nurse in mental health to do this. There is no psychiatrist in my county and neighboring counties are underserved. Please help me and the residents of Texas by removing the requirement of APRNs to have a supervising physician. More than 20 states have already done this with excellent outcomes. Let people choose their provider. They may travel to see a physician if they choose. Please let APRNs all over Texas help Texas patients during this difficult time when depression and suicide has increased, even in our children.

---

Allen Brown, citizen  
self  
Kingwood, TX

This bill will drastically help people who are not economically able to get psychiatric help. Please VOTE YES!

---

Kate Dolezal  
Texas Nurse Practitioners  
Amarillo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the Veterans Administration and all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Robin Argyle, APRN, FNP-C  
Texas Nurse Practitioners  
Hewitt, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.  
I practice in Falls County which is a rural health area. The fact that 31 states and Entities recognize NPs as independent should speak for itself. Patient outcomes are stellar for NPs across the board. The antiquated rule that says I'm wise enough to see patients, but not wise enough to know when I need help, I'm over my head, or otherwise should refer, is ridiculous. I'm educated enough to prescribe a controlled substance, but not educated enough to sign for some needed medical equipment, or wise enough to understand the importance and value of getting assistance without it be mandated that I do so, is ludicrous and places cumbersome requirements that has not yet proven to be ANY BENEFIT to ANY NP, OR PATIENT.  
The ONLY ONE BENEFITTING from supervised practice are the physicians being paid to supervise. Please remove these antiquated restrictions. Here is a moment you can help the underdogs who don't have the money to buy support from politicians. Thank you for your consideration.

---

Michelle Schneider, Family Nurse Practitioner, independent practice owner  
Nurse Practitioners  
Spring, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

I am a nurse practitioner functioning independently and spend \$12000 per year just to be able to practice independently. My delegating physician is minimally involved in my practice and I very rarely even speak to him.

It is time to remove these outdated restrictions (that are on paper only) so that we may work to our fullest potential to help with the current healthcare crisis!

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Michelle Schneider  
Family Nurse Practitioner-C

---

Anna Dixon  
Boyd Integrative Healthcare  
Trinity, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. Anna Dixon, APRN, FNP-C

---

Debbie Brown, citizen  
Self  
Kingwood, TX

This bill help those who cannot afford quality health care! PLEASE VOTE YES!

---

Meaghan Reilly, RN, FNP student  
Self -RN and FNP Student Texas A&M  
San antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Lutricia Harrison, DNP,APRN-C  
Texas Nurse Practitioners Association and National Black Nurse Practitioner Association  
Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Debbie Bailey  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

I support this bill. It is essential for the healthcare for Texans and expands access to healthcare, especially for the underserved. It allows APRNs to provide care in areas where there are no providers.

---

Diane Bonsall, MSN, APRN, ACNS-BC

Self

Cedar Park, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Angela Gooden, Nurse Practitioner

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Pearland, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) can help. However, the state first needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 other states, the Veterans Administration, all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Michelle Walker

Self, Registered nurse

Corinth, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Many studies have proven that APRNs provide safe and competent care on par with physicians. In a time when socioeconomic barriers prevent many Americans from having access to quality healthcare, removing the delegation mandate for APRNs will allow more affordable options for patients. Physicians against HB 2029 are against it for financial reasons- they profit from this mandate, further driving healthcare costs.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Kashaelyn Hollins-Henderson, Family Nurse Practitioner

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Desoto, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Kashaelyn Hollins-Henderson, MS, APRN, FNP-C

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Kathy Smith, Nurse Practitioner

Self APRN

Harker heights, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Other health professions practice independently and provide cost effective care to out Texans across the state, APRNs must have the ability to practice to the full extent of their education.

---

NICHIOLAS BROWN, Taxpayer

self

Kingwood, TX

This bill can only help those that need mental health from psychiatric help at lower costs.  
PLEASE VOTE YES!

---

Rachelle Richardson, Mrs.

self

Lubbock, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Lynnea Edwards

Self

Austin, TX

As a board-certified Clinical Nurse Specialist, I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. I see first-hand the consequences of lack of access to care by working in a hospital outside large cities. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Dinah Waranch

Dinah Waranch

Dallas, TX

As an advanced practice nurse (certified nurse midwife) I would like to urge members to pass this important measure. The current



supervision requirements are unnecessarily burdensome both to the advanced practice nurse and to the physician and do not have ANY effect on patient safety. The physician is asked to be responsible for patients who are not directly in his/her care which is illogical. The advanced practice nurses may have difficulty finding a physician to provide that service. The bill provides for appropriate scope of practice for their training and license. It will make a positive impact on my own practice.

---

Pamela Seery

Self

Cleburne, TX

As a consumer who supports access to the Midwives Model of Care, I support HB 2029, to remove barriers to care from Certified Nurse Midwives.

---

Flossy Chandy, FNP PMHNP

Self

Dallas, TX

It will help us to reach more needed patients and community

---

Bryan Walker

Self

Round Rock, TX

Having experienced COVID-19 and being hospitalized the ability to access healthcare providers for treatment before and after my hospitalization was ridiculous. I was unable to see a provider for weeks following my release from the hospital. Additionally my ability to get diagnosis and treatment prior to hospitalization was impaired by lack of providers.

I have experienced first hand care from nurse practitioners and found it equal or better than that provided by a medical doctor of osteopathy.

Please give advanced practice nurses the ability to practice to the full extent of their training.

---

Kim Borchert

Austin Doula Care

Cedar Park, TX

As a birth doula in Austin, I have witnessed the difference in Midwifery care vs. Obstetrical care. With Texas having one of the highest maternal mortality rates in the country, giving birthing people access to Certified Nurse Midwives will help to reduce these numbers drastically. Evidence shows when midwifery care is introduced, there are better outcomes for the birthing person and the baby. Please remove the red tape that keeps CNM's and APRNs from serving those who are in the most need.

---

Scott Viktorin

Self

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first,

the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Chris Brown, Mr

Self

Quitman, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Pamela Green, DNP

Self - Doctorate prepared Nurse Practitioner

Sherman, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Hillary Mayers, Family Nurse Practitioner

Self

Lubbock, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Wendy Madrid Lazo, Guest Educator

Self

Irving, TX

As a consumer who supports access to the Midwives Model of Care, I support HB 2029, to remove barriers to care from Certified Nurse Midwives.

---

Emily Bennett, APRN / RN

SELF/ AGNP - C

houston, TX

am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Sherry Cook-Rousey

Texas Nurse Practitioners

PFLUGERVILLE, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Kristen Hosaka, Dr

Self

Burleson, TX

I am in favor of this bill to advance the practice of registered nurses to help expand the accessibility of healthcare without an undue financial burden on the nurses.

---

Emily Bennett

UT MD Anderson Cancer center

Houston, TX

am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Haiyan Liu

Austin Geriatric Specialists

cedar park, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

David Rodriguez  
Nurse Practitioner  
Carrollton, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

I am available for any questions or comments. Thank you for your continued commitment and service to our citizens of the State of Texas.

---

Audrey Ceron  
Self  
Dallas, TX

As a consumer who supports access to the Midwives Model of Care, I support HB 2029, to remove barriers to care from Certified Nurse Midwives.

---

Brooke Gaudiano  
Self/ RN BSN  
Cypress, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Allison Haug, Nurse Practitioner  
Nurse Practitioner  
Plano, TX

Hi! Hope you are all well. I am an APRN working at a FQHC in north Texas. I work with mostly those who don't have insurance, and those who would not typically receive care. I know that my patient population needs access to more health care. We are booked out until June. Please remove this barrier to care for so many Americans by eliminating the need for NP/physician contracts. This benefits the health of all Texans.

---

C H, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC  
SELF NURSE PRACTITIONER  
Austin, TX

am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Halli Carr, DNP, APRN, ACNP

Self, Nurse Practitioner

Garland, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Yu Zhong, FNP student

Texas A&M University

Round Rock, TX

Dear Lawmakers,

I am writing in support of HB 2029.

Full practice authority (FPA) of Nurse Practitioners (NP) is still not permitted in Texas, which is a big issue currently limiting the quality of health care services in our state.

FPA means NP practice without required physician involvement, and it assures that NPs can practice with their education and skills independently as a qualified health care provider (Brom, et al., 2018). Many states have approved FPA for NPs since the passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) of 2010 (Brom, et al., 2018). It is a pity Texas is still not one of them.

Fortunately, more and more scientists and organizations realized the importance of FPA for NPs to the current health care system. As pointed out by Dillon and Gary (2017), the demand for primary health care providers is expected to grow rapidly based on current utilization patterns, more than physicians can supply. This imbalance will become worse as the baby boomers are aging and require more health care resources (Dillon and Gary, 2017).

As one of the Texas residents, I deeply understand how hard it is for common people to get necessary health care in time. Sometimes, we need to wait even months before an appointment. People can wait, however, pains won't wait. As a FNP student in Texas as well, I deeply feel the necessary for APRN to gain FPA. We are all educated and trained with clinical experience, we are willing to help Texans in need, and we can make our Texan's life more smiles and less pains by improving our health care services.

Thus, I strongly support the Bill HB2029 and encourage you to vote YES to remove outdated, unnecessary mandates requiring APRNs to have a contract with a physician in order to care for patients.

Thank you for your support!

Best Regards,

Yu

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Heather Claunch

Self- RN

Weatherford, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Katrina Midkiff

TNP

Austin, TX

am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Melissa Bowman

Self, Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

Midland, TX

I am writing to support HB 2029. Many areas in Texas face a shortage of healthcare providers, leaving too many Texans without options for healthcare in their communities.

As an APRN myself, when I moved to Texas several years ago I was without primary care due to a shortage of providers in my city. I relied on urgent cares, and my stage 4 cancer went undetected and untreated for several months.

Fortunately, I survived my battle with cancer, primarily because my training and advocacy skills as a NP kept me pushing forward toward a diagnosis and proper treatment. Many of my fellow Texans are not that fortunate. We need well trained providers and access to care to prevent catastrophic outcomes from lack of healthcare access.

Over 30 states have allowed for full practice authority for APRNs, creating expanded access for citizens and well documented improved outcomes for patients. The restrictive practice laws in Texas create an unnecessary barrier to employment for APRNs, and foster divisive relationships between members of healthcare teams.

It is difficult to attract and retain quality healthcare professionals when they are unable to work to the full level of their training and capabilities. Please eliminate these barriers, and allow APRNs to work to the full scope of their training and national certifications.

---

Justin Cullers, APRN, PMHNP-BC

Self, Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner

Austin, TX

I am a psychiatric nurse practitioner who provides psychiatric medication management and psychotherapy in Austin. I am writing to ask for your support of HB 2029, which would lift the barriers that prevent advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) from filling in the many gaps in health care across Texas.

Like all APRNs in Texas, I can only provide care under terms that a delegating physician dictates in a delegation agreement. These terms may limit my practice location, acceptable insurances, hours, client population, and many other details. If I were unwilling to pay a large percentage of the money I earn to a delegating physician, I would not be allowed to practice at all. If my delegating physician dies today, I cannot legally provide care tomorrow. The current delegation requirement clearly limits access to quality health care and creates perverse incentives. HB 2029 would free APRNs from the delegation requirement and allow us to fill in the many gaps in healthcare. Please support nurses by supporting this bill. I appreciate your consideration.

Kind regards,  
Justin Cullers MSN, RN, PMHNP-BC

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Theresa Willey, APRN CPNP

Self

Arlington, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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Alikia Abner, APRN

Self APRN

Cibolo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in healthcare shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the VA, all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access to healthcare and more options for Texas patients. Please support HB 2029.

---

Jennifer Kucera, APRN, FNP-C

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Van Vleck, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Virginia Utterback

Texas A&M College of Nursing

Round Rock, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Meagan Soltwisch, DNP, FNP-C

Baylor University

Keller, TX

Today is a crucial day for Texas nurse practitioners.

The House Public Health Committee will hear House Bill 2029 today, which will remove outdated, unnecessary mandates requiring APRNs to have a contract with a physician in order to care for patients.

The bill's opponents are utilizing significant resources to lobby against this important bill.

We need every voice we have to speak up in support of this bill. Please take a few moments to submit supporting comments for HB 2029 prior to noon today.

Suggested supporting comment for TNP members to submit:

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Natalie Franks, Nurse Practitioner

Natalie Franks - Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner, Family Nurse Practitioner

Highland Village, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Temeka Stoker

Self - Nurse Practitioner

Mansfield, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.



Erin Perez,DNP,APRN,ANP-C,AGNP-C,ACHPN, Dr.

Self / Palliative Care Nurse Practitioner

Live Oak, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate just like 31 other states, the V.A., all branches of the military and the District of Columbia already have done.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Rosalinda Castaneda

Self- RN

New Braunfels, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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Siobain Rogers, MSN, APRN, FNP-C

Self, Nurse Practitioner

Carthage, TX

I have been a critical care nurse in the state of Texas for over a decade, and an advanced practice nurse practitioner for six years. Due to the heavy restrictions placed on my ability to practice my profession to the best of my ability, I am strongly considering leaving my profession altogether.

I became a nurse practitioner in order to bring better access to people in my small town of 6,000 people in deep East Texas. Thanks to supervisory requirements, without spending upwards of half of my gross income, denying care to those who cannot afford cash pay, asking employees to work for free, or working 100 hours a week- it is simply not sustainable.

Even the most understanding supervising physician asks a minimum of \$1,000 to \$1,500 per month- for doing nothing. They see no patients, do no actual care or exams, order no tests or treatments, review no lab work- and yet I'm asked to pay these monthly dues as if they are actually providing a service? That is not a partnership nor is it actual supervision. It is simply a financial arrangement in which I am required to write a check to exist. There is no benefit for my patients.

There are thousands of practitioners like myself with decades of experience, who have a strong understanding of our scope of practice. We know our own limitations- when and where to refer to a higher level of care, and how to coordinate that care. We spent years at the bedside doing just that. Nurses are not the most trusted professional for no reason- and that has to be recognized.

Millions of Texans depend on a nurse practitioner for their care- and more will need access to quality care as they age. Will you be the one to deny them?

---

Melinda Friudenberg

self/ Family Nurse Practitioner

Richwood, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please help us to remove barriers so our fellow Texans may benefit.

---

George Ostrander

self-Small Business Owner

Plano, TX

I receive all of my own personal health care from a Family Nurse Practitioner. She has been in practice for 40 years and is better than all of the physicians I have ever seen. Why? Because she listens and instructs me in life changes rather than just throwing a pill at me. When I started seeing her, my diabetes was out of control. It took a lot of work on both of our parts, but after several months, my diabetes improved significantly, by eating better, exercise, and yes, diabetes pills and injections.

---

Katie Gaston, MSN, APRN, WHNP-BC

Self

Anna, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029, not just as an APRN myself, but also as a person who has experienced living in a rural and largely underserved community. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help to bridge that gap and meet those needs. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. in all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Texans deserve to have better access to healthcare providers and you can help make that happen.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Thank you.

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Terri Trumbly

Self

Amarillo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

John Trevino, Mr.

Self/ police officer

Live Oak, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate just like 31 other states, the V.A., all branches of the military and the District of Columbia already have done.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Annette Albano, APRN, FNP-C

TNP

Dallas, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Karen Martin, RN, APRN , CNS -Med/Surg, CWON

Self

Dallas, TX

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Michael Trumbly

Self

Amarillo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Sarah Ybarra, BSN, RN

Self RN FNP student

Groom, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Phillip Schorfheide

Optum HouseCalls, nurse practitioner

Richmond, TX

As a nurse of 39 years, a geriatric nurse practitioner who does HouseCalls, and the son of a 90-year-old female, I am asking you to support House bill 2029-not to take away patients from physicians, but to extend availability to more of the population of Texas. Thank you for your consideration. Phillip Schorfheide, GNP-BC

---

Kelly DiFabbio, Mrs

self

Prosper, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Please help Texans get the access to comprehensive and affordable healthcare that they so desperately need by removing a mandate that only helps certain parties profit with the guise of protecting patients. Multiple studies and outcomes have shown that APRNs provide adequate, safe, and effective care that is comparable and just as safe as our physician counterparts.

---

Jenny Robertson

Self

Dallas, TX

I support HB2029 in removing physicians from overseeing nurse practitioners

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Marla Erbin-Roesemann, Dr.

self

Round Rock, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Diana Garcia

Self

Friendswood, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Jamie Lovell

self

Austin, TX

Our healthcare system is currently strained and will continue to become constrained. Licensing for APRN/FNP covers appropriate limitations on area of practice based on training. Requiring APRN/FNP licensed practitioners to practice under a supervising physician is an inappropriate limitation on scope of practice. This places restrictions and unnecessary expense impacting access to care and impacting patient outcomes. Most people I know have had better experiences, more accurate, empathetic care and better outcomes when seeing a Nurse Practitioner over visiting with a Dr. The training (including clinicals) is sufficient to provide quality care.

I implore you and your peers in our government to research, talk to industry representatives and talk to your family/friends about outcomes and make the decision to remove restrictions on full practice authority for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses. I am more than happy to schedule time to talk personally about my experiences if it adds value to consideration.

---

RICK ENLOW, Member/Manager

Enlow Heritage Properties, LLC (Texas)

Fort Worth, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. As a small business owner I need access to low cost medical care. NPs are awesome and seem to take better care of my employees than the MD. They listen and communicate well. Why does Texas still have a law that requires NPs to pay a MD for the privilege of taking care of its citizens. It would be ok if the greedy MDs did not charge them \$2000 a month for this agreement. This is almost like mafia extortion. The NP will always refer if they are not sure of the diagnosis. The state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. The nursing board should be the one who grants prescriptive authority in Texas, not an expensive monthly contract with a MD who never sees the patient.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Michael Doyal, FNP-BC

Panhandle Nurse Practitioners and Texas Nurse Practitioners

Amarillo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

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Cara Neagoe, NP

NTNP

Dallas, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

ERIC SINCLAIR

SELF

FLOWER MOUND, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A., all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Penne Jaster, APRN, FNP-BC

Self - Nurse Practitioner

San Antonio, TX

Thank you for hearing comments today and for your service To our State. I have been an actively practicing Family Nurse Practitioner for 18 years in Texas. I have served in Family Practice, Internal Medicine and Women's Health. I have not only practiced in public and non-profit arenas but also serve to train future Nurse Practitioners on a regular basis. I am very particular about their skills in caring for patients, accurate diagnosis and in effective plan development and execution in partnership with patients. In 2020 I served over 700 hours of my professional time as a preceptor.

I have had very generous and professional collaborating Physicians. As We have each grown in our roles, we have a great respect For one another and the unique aspects we each bring to patient care. All of my Collaborating Physicians have expressed an encumbrance with the current laws requiring Nurse Practitioners and PA's to obtain a service and further tie up valuable time and resources.

I am writing in full support of this bill as it will increase patient access to care and provide for a greater use of our trained professionals to serve our State and communities.

Nurse Practitioners exude a high quality of patient care and are often preferred providers in many aspects of care. Nurse Practitioners bring a wealth of excellence to patient care because they not only bring their advanced practice training but also hours served as Registered Nurses. They bring skills from acute to chronic care that is very patient oriented. They have patient education and business skills, they provide critical services in times of need and are versatile because of the depth of their training. Nurse Practitioners are prudent and diligent medical care providers and a great asset to our State and communities at large. This is not the mere expansion of a freedom but a removal of barriers to providing high quality healthcare to Texans. This allows Texans to partner in their healthcare with providers who fit their needs and desires. This provides for a Texas that is empowered to become healthy, strong and effective influencers in our communities and nation.

I invite you to join me in supporting a pivotal movement in healthcare legislation to allow Physicians, Nurse Practitioners and Physicians Assistants to unite in providing high quality healthcare to Texans! I support HB 2909.

Penne Jaster, APRN, FNP-BC

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JaShunta Carson, APRN

Carson Psychiatric Associates, Inc. ( Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner)

PLANO, TX

I am in full support of this bill. As an Advance Practice Registered Nurse, I pride myself on being the best in the field. I bring my nursing judgement, bedside mannerisms, empathy for others, and advanced educational background into every encounter with my patients. Advance Practice Registered Nurses have the ability to carry heavier case loads than our collaborating physicians and do it extremely well. We are usually the first providers that patients get to see when they seek services in a clinic and/or hospital setting , because physicians simply do not have the time to spend with their patients to explain disease pathology, prognosis, and

treatment plans with their assigned patients. As a result, most of their patients never meet their assigned physician, but instead will be assessed, diagnosed, treated, and discharged by the Advance Practice Registered Nurse. We are the silent providers in health care. Physicians have been taking advantage of our services for years and feel threatened to an extent because with the hopeful passing of this bill, physicians will have to make themselves available to care for their own patients instead of relying on Nurse Practitioners to get the job done for them. Physicians hire Advance Registered Nurse Practitioner because we are just as competent and proficient as they are in the field and as a result our patient outcomes, retention, and satisfaction scores are higher.

---

Christine Callander

Self - Family Nurse Practitioner

Carrollton, TX

Please approve this bill which will allow Nurse Practitioners, like myself, to provide excellent patient care without the supervision of a medical doctor. This will lower the cost of healthcare while allowing for better access to well trained and knowledgeable healthcare providers. Physicians will always be a needed adjunct as their expertise and speciality training is exceptional, but for most routine healthcare concerns a nurse practitioner is equally qualified to provide these services.

Thank you,

Christine Callander, MSN, APRN, FNP-C

---

Shilloy Hart, Mrs.

Self, Family Nurse Practitioner

Grand Prairie, TX

Millions of Texans live in areas of healthcare shortage. APRNs can help provide safe healthcare and decrease healthcare costs on our communities. But first, Texas needs to remove the delegation mandate and join the other 31 states, the VA, and the District of Columbia in their trust of APRNs as qualified healthcare providers.

This is not a competition between APRNs and physicians. APRNs still want and need physicians as part of the comprehensive healthcare team for Texans. APRNs simply want to provide care to Texas patients without unnecessary barriers.

Please support more healthcare access and options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Melissa Nealy

Self

Rosenberg, TX

As a consumer who supports access to the Midwives Model of Care, I support HB 2029, to remove barriers to care from Certified Nurse Midwives.

---

Ronald Blaha

Chiromassage / doctor of Chiropractic.

Dallas, TX

It is time for Nurse Practitioners to be able to see and treat patients independently without a delegating physician like they were trained to do. I have many patients that are Nurse Practitioners who cannot open clinics because of the unnecessary charges they have to pay to be able to practice what they are licensed to do. This affects access to healthCare for all citizens and particularly the

rural communities. There are over 30 states who have full practice rights two of those being California and Florida. Texas is now the most restricted state in terms of ability to practice and we are losing our Nurse Practitioners because of these unfair practices of delegating. I support these bills every 2 years to see them go nowhere. Currently the delegating can be in a different state, does not have to be present, and meets once a month. nurse Practitioners are trained and licensed to practice and should be able to do that independent just like other professions. Please consider passage of this bill which will benefit our communities and open doors to full access for healthcare. It is especially important during the Covid-19 pandemic. Restrictions were lifted for Nurse Practitioners to practice independently to care for Covid-19 patients. What would be the difference if they could do this everyday like they have been trained to do. We have yet to see the repercussions of a grueling parade if surface. Whole will treat these patients? What about the long haulers who will have forever complications. It is time to lift these unfair restrictions.

Thank- you,  
Dr Ronald Blaha DC

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Kathryn Kremer, FNP  
Texas Nurse Practitioners  
Lewisville, TX

Texas has more uninsured and underserved people than most other states. Nurse Practitioners can help to meet the needs of these people. But the current system of supervision decreases NPs ability to offer the needed care. Many other states don't have these requirements and the care has not suffered as a result. Please change this outmoded and unnecessary system to let NPs practice to the full extent of their education and training.

---

Kayley Slone, FNP-C  
Self/Family Nurse Practitioner  
New Braunfels, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Lori Spors, FNP  
Community Health Clinic-McKinney  
Wylie, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. I am a nurse of 35 years and fully support this bill in an effort to deliver care to the many patients that go without medical care. Many times early intervention by a Nurse practitioner can change the quality of there lives as well as decrease the burden on the medical system. Please allow us to do what we do best. Care for the lost, the letdown and the looking souls! Thank you for your time!

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Barbara Aluia, Mrs  
Self, homemaker  
San Antonio, TX



As a consumer who supports access to the Midwives Model of Care, I support HB 2029, to remove barriers to care from Certified Nurse Midwives.

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Jolie Dunham, Mrs.

self - Acute care Nurse Practitioner

The colony, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Theresa Tran, Dr.

Texas College of Emergency Physicians (TCEP)

Houston, TX

Chairwoman Klick, Vice Chairman Guerra, and members, thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony in respectful opposition to House Bill 2029. My name is Theresa Tran, and I am a practicing emergency physician and chair of the Texas College of Emergency Physicians (TCEP) Government Relations Committee.

TCEP is composed of over 2,200 emergency physicians in Texas. Our membership includes emergency physicians who practice in a wide variety of settings. TCEP exists to promote quality emergency care for all patients and to represent the professional interests of our members. Emergency physicians are often the last resource available to patients who do not receive timely or appropriate care. It is therefore incumbent that we are active participants in the quest for solutions.

As an emergency physician who oversees mid-level providers, residents, and medical students, often all within the same shift, I can predict the unintended consequences on patient safety that HB 2029 would have on patients who arrive to an emergency department (ED) needing immediate, appropriate, life-saving treatment. During teaching shifts, I often play a game with my team where I show flash cards with questions or clinical images, asking the team to identify emergent conditions or choose treatment options. Owing to the different education that they receive, my residents are invariably quicker and more accurate in their choice of management options than my graduated mid-level providers. The greater comfort level with which physicians care for very sick patients is also clear in health literature, as physicians tend to care for more complex patients than nurse practitioners. Furthermore, to make up for uncertainty in knowledge, providers often use studies to aid in decision-making, and NPs tend to rely more on referrals to physicians, costly admissions, and imaging studies. This increased resource utilization leads to increased strain on the health care system and increased patient costs.

For patients who are at the point of illness that they must seek care in the ED, “time is brain” and “time is tissue.” The ability to think critically and take quick, accurate action on patients with multiple layers of medical problems – all while using limited information and resources – is a skill that takes years to sharpen, and the outcome of a single decision can be life or death.

The standard of care for all Texans in life-and-death situations must be attendance by a physician who has completed medical school and residency, with physicians as the leaders of the ED team.

Sincerely,

Theresa Q. Tran, MD, MBA

Chair, Government Relations Committee

Texas College of Emergency Physicians  
theresatranbcm@gmail.com

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Stephanie Guignard  
stephanie guignard  
fairview, TX

Im writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help alleviate this burden. The state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the VA, all branches of the military, and District of Columbia already have. It increases the cost of providing care and it is becoming increasingly difficult to retain physicians willing to supervise. Thank you

---

Kelly Viktorin  
Self  
Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Melody Lin  
Women's Health nurse practitioner  
Dallas, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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Selly Doan  
Self/Registered Nurse  
Pasadena, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

William Green, PMHNP  
Self - Advanced Practice Nurse  
Boerne, TX

I am writing today in support of HG 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can be of great help. But first, the state needs to remove delegation mandate just like 31 states in the U.S., the V.A., all branches of the military, and the

District of Columbia already have.

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Jason Spees

Self

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Ulda Veneziani, APRN

Self

Plano, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Scottie Buehler, Dr.

self, historian of medicine

Kyle, TX

As a historian of medicine who supports access to the Midwives Model of Care, I support HB 2029, to remove barriers to care from Certified Nurse Midwives.

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Oluwatosin Adewumi, FNP, PHMNP

SELF

KELLER, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Christina Keil

Self

Grapevine, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

I have been in a situation several times of not being able to practice and complete my duties because my collaborative physician has quit, or change their mind about wanting to collaborate with me. I am not alone in this. It is also difficult to work in underserved areas, or see Medicare and Medicaid patients because very few physicians will cover us.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Suzanne Alton, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC

self, nurse practitioner and professor

Texas City, TX

I am a family nurse practitioner who has been practicing for 25 years. I have practiced in full practice states, and Texas. We have a work around, which is paying lots of money to physicians for "oversight". I thought Texas was a Republican state- don't you believe in free enterprise in a profession that has proved our safety and decreased expenses over and over again, through the past 40 years? You don't think nurses have the knowledge to do this? We go to school for it. Who do you think wakes up the physician at 3am because a problem with a patient? It's the nurse who knows how to assess and obtain higher levels of care. Texas, Please come into the 20th century, not even asking for 21st, and pass this bill that so many other states have (who, by the way, have much better health care stats than Texas).

---

Rikki Robinett

Self, Emergency Department Registered Nurse

Burleson, TX

Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. APRNs have the ability to significantly improve the health of Texas residents.

---

Ashley Collie

Hill Country Birth & Wellness

Burnet, TX

As a consumer who supports access to the Midwives Model of Care, I support HB 2029, to remove barriers to care from Certified Nurse Midwives.

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Sonia Escareno

Self

La Porte, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Katherine Tillman, Dr.

self

Aledo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. APRNs can make a dramatic difference in providing care to underserved populations across the state of Texas.

---

Eugenia Tidwell

Self

San Antonio, TX

As a registered nurse and a Nurse Practitioner student, I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. It will help us, future providers, be able to provide care in rural areas where it might be hard to find a MD provider.

Thank you!

---

Jennifer Tiemann, RN

Self- APRN

La Grange, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Donna Rolin, PhD, APRN, PMHCNS-BC, PMHNP-BC

self, as a psychiatric healthcare clinician

Austin, TX

I am a Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner from the east coast with the ability back east to work at the full scope of my license. Since coming to TX in 2012, my practice has been extremely limited by unnecessary MD oversight and 30% of my earnings. It has become so cumbersome and expensive to practice here, I am considering doing clinical work in other states instead. I currently serve patients with serious mental illness and intellectual/developmental disabilities all on Medicaid/Medicare (not an easy population for which to find a specialist clinician by the way). Additionally, I lead a PMHNP program locally... 33% of my graduate from 2020 moved immediately out of state upon graduation so that their practice would be more reasonable. More and

more leave with each cohort now.

I strongly urge you to consider the implications of this flight of NPs out of state on our already dreadful healthcare access in this state. NPs naturally work in collaboration with other clinicians... it is unnecessary to have us pay so much and still practice "with our hands tied behind our backs," if you will with restrictions, while none of this is supported by NP clinical outcomes or safety data. Please support the passage of HB 2029/SB 915 for the sake of the improvement of healthcare for all Texans. Thank you.

---

Elyse Cho, Dr.

Self- Certified nurse midwife.

Houston, TX

Please consider removing restrictions for APRNS/CNMs in the state of Texas. This is limiting practice ability, and makes it difficult for APRNS/CNMs to provide care, as well as, pads pockets of MDs/maintains authoritarian relationships between certain providers.

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Viktoria Zatkalik, NP

NTNP

Coppell, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Amy West

Self

Denton, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.?

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Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Donna Schmidt, Mrs, Registered Nurse

FNP Penne Jaster, RN, APN, FNPBC

Mico, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.?

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Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Jacqueline Guess, FNP-c  
Jacqueline Guess, Pulmonary Lung Mass NP  
San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. This would provide needed health care to potentially hundreds of thousands of patients that need it most.

Very Respectfully,

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Sarai Beadles  
self  
Frisco, TX

I would like to express my support for HB2029. We need to remove restrictions on Advance Practice Nurses so that more Texans can access safe and affordable healthcare. Now more than ever, we need APRNs to be able to provide healthcare to Texans! Please vote yes on HB2029! Thank you

---

Cara Young, Dr  
Self, Associate Professor  
Manchaca, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Niketa Watson  
Self  
Lewisville, TX

We need to remove restrictions on advanced practice nurses so that more Texans can access safe and affordable healthcare. Now more than ever we need APRN's to be able to provide healthcare to Texas. I ask that you please vote YES on HB2029

---

Jonathan King, APRN  
Self  
TX, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have

---

Ronald Blaha, Dr

Blaha Family Medical Clinic

Dallas, TX

I currently have my own practice as a Family Nurse Practitioner that has been open and struggling for the last five years because of having to pay a delegating physician that does nothing. I practice everyday ,never call him and have to pay him a fee of \$1500.00 a month. I find this to be very unfair because I am licensed to practice Family Medicine. We are losing our Nurse Practitioners because of these unfair acts and restrictions in Texas which happens to be the most restricted state. We sit and wait for legislation every two years and nothing has been done to lift these restrictions. It is time for Nurse Practitioners to be able to practice to the full extent without delegation. We are now in a pandemic and Nurse Practitioners will be the ones caring for these patients. Restrictions were lifted for them to treat Covid-19 patients so what would be the difference in a clinic setting. I am tired of this unfairness. Access to healthcare for all should be available, especially in smaller communities who have none. Lifting delegation laws would provide a better access for healthcare for our communities. More and more people prefer to see a Nurse Practitioner. We educate and spend time with our clients and give them options and referrals. My clinic is on the verge of closing since this pandemic and I have to continue to pay my delegating regardless. I should be able to run my clinic without restriction. Please pass this bill. It is time. Everything is hard with these restrictions, from ordering necessary, supplies, to not being able to see patients who have insurance. The list goes on. I fully support full practice authority rights for ALL Nurse Practitioners.

Dr Ronald Blaha DC, FNP-C

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Betty Armbrrecht, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC,CEN, Dr.

Self

RICHMOND, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029.

Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioners (APRNs) can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A., all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Miranda Caswell

Self student midwife

Round Rock, TX

As a consumer who supports access to the Midwives Model of Care, I support HB 2029, to remove barriers to care from Certified Nurse Midwives.

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Alexandria Seifer, FNP

Self, APRN



Frisco, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Ivonne Espinosa, Dr.

Texas Tech University Health Science Center

El Paso, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in critical health care shortage areas, and APRNs can be the solution. But first, Texas needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like the other 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Zane Beadles

self

Frisco, TX

I would like to express my support for HB2029. We need to remove restrictions on Advance Practice Nurses so that more Texans can access safe and affordable healthcare. Now more than ever, we need APRNs to be able to provide healthcare to Texans!

Please vote yes on HB2029! Thank you

---

Trisha Magee

Self

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Priscila Reid

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Cypress, TX

Hello,

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Thank you,  
Priscila Reid

---

Devon Price, MSN, APRN, FNP-C

Self, Nurse Practitioner

Decatur, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Carole Moore, APRN

self

HAMILTON, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. As a practicing Nurse Practitioner, I know my limitations, when to refer patients to a higher level of care, and remain devoted to safe practice for all my patients. Limited access to care remains a problem in Texas which can be more readily addressed in a cost efficient manner by removing unnecessary and frequently costly restrictions on our ability to fully practice within our education/training, certifications, and experience.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Elizabeth Watson

Self

Lewisville, TX

We need to remove restrictions on advanced practice nurses so that more Texans can access safe and affordable healthcare. Now more than ever we need APRN's to be able to provide healthcare to Texas.

I ask that you please vote YES on HB2029

---

ElizaBeth Sparkman, ARNP

Self, Rural Health Clinic Nurse Practitioner

Mico, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas such as where I work and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

willa decker, Clinical Assistant Professor

self

Hempstead, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Glady` Busch, MSN, APRN, NP, BC

Texas Nurse Practitioner

Humble, TX

Hello,

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. This would allow easier health access for all across the board and help significantly those among the most vulnerable.

Kind regards,

Glady S. Busch, MSN, APRN, NP, BC

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Russ Odders

Self

Willow Park, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Gabrielle Domenge, CEO

Life Choices Medical Clinic

San Antonio, TX

?

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of

Columbia already have.?

?

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Ellyn Baker, Aprn, cpnp

Self/APRN

Dallas, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Kyle Willett

self, Medical Student

Dallas, TX

Serious harm has come to friends and family members who were misdiagnosed by an NP (who do not go to medical school, but undergo one year of online training and one year of observerships), only for the problem to be ultimately corrected by an MD.

We wouldn't let paralegals practice law.

NP's simply do not have the training to handle the complex needs of an aging populace without physician oversight.

---

Kristi Darbonne, RNC-OB

Self/Student Nurse-Midwife

Seabrook, TX

Considering that Houston has the largest medical complex in the world and one of the most populated cities in the United States, we should be leading by example in the area of advanced practice nursing. There is no better time than during a pandemic to increase availability of healthcare options to so many in need.

---

Amanda Lyberger

Self-employed cosmetologist

Plano, TX

Please PASS HB 2029

I own a one-person (me) hair salon and was totally shut down for months due to COVID restrictions. I have NO health insurance because I cannot afford it. If it weren't for my Nurse Practitioner, Sandra McCoy, seeing me for \$50 cash, I would not have any health care. There are a lot of people in Texas like me that rely on NPs for our health care needs. I'd have to go to the Emergency room instead.

---

Sandra Eastling, MSN, APRN, CNM, WHNP-BC  
Larry Combest Community Health and Wellness Center  
Lubbock, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Health care for Texans would be greatly improved if restrictions such as mandated delegation were removed. APRNs have been able to address the health care shortage in rural areas and provide care for millions of Texans living in healthcare deserts.

---

April Tolbert, APRN  
Self Women's Health Nurse Practitioner  
Fort Worth, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Jessica Hinz, Mrs.  
Self/ Registered Nurse, FNP student  
Weatherford, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Cassie Epstein Whitmire, Dr.  
Self, veterinarian  
Denton, TX

Medicine needs change. Allowing advanced practice nurses the ability to practice without what is more often just a monetary penalty and not actual mentorship or oversight limits the ability to provide more easily accessible and affordable healthcare.

---

Joley Payne  
Self, Registered Nurse  
Farmersville, TX

I support this bill to remove unnecessary restrictions on Advance Practice Nurses in Texas.

---

Callie Crouch, Dr.  
Self, family nurse practitioner

Canadian, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Cristi Day

Self - Nurse practitioner

Normanna, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

This issue has become critical in Bee and Live Oak Counties. We are one retirement away from losing three primary care clinics.

Thank you,  
Cristi Day

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GAYLA CAMPBELL

Private Practice

SPRINGTOWN, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But, first the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A, the branches of the military, and the District of Columbus already have.

By removing the delegation mandate, more Texans will have access to healthcare.

Thank you,  
Gayla Campbell, MSN, APRN, WHNP-BC

---

Misa Bui

CNM

Allen, TX

I am for this bill and believe it will solve our problems with shortage of healthcare professional and access to healthcare

---

Sandra Barrera, MSN, RN, FNP-C

self, Family Nurse Practitioner

Taft, TX

Good morning, I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the

District of Columbia already have. Thank you for your time.

---

Saundra Hendricks

ISelf

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Grace Whalen

Self

Richardson, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Elizabeth Odders, Nurse Practitioner Independent Practice

self

Willow Park, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Sonia Moreno-Rogers, Founder and President

Nurses Care Hub

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.?

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Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Dawn Oberst

self retired NP

Dallas, TX

IT is time for TEXAS to step up for Health Care! The federal government recognizes the value of having Advance Practice Nurses (see US Military/Veterans for their use of NP) to expand health care to it's veterans. Texas is woefully understaffed with Primary Providers. It is way past time to Allow Nurse Practitioners to practice in their full capacity. Why is Texas ALWAYS towards the bottom of the health care spectrum? It is because of the powerful medical board controlled my MD's. NP's are here to supplement the lack of primary providers in this state! We are trained, certified, and ready to assist. Nurses are rated among the top rated "professionals". The legislature in Texas has NP's on staff in Austin!! Allow the Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to work in their full capacity for the good of all TEXANS!

---

Meredith Dean

Self. Certified Nurse Midwife - MSN student

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A, and all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

We are already in the middle of a maternal mortality crisis. Low intervention midwifery care has been shown to reduce maternal mortality rates, and decrease unnecessary procedures.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Nancy Fahrenwald

self

College Station, TX

Access to health care for the vast expanses of rural residents and underserved populations in Texas is essential. This bill will reduce barriers to access to much needed care. The quality of care by certified nurse practitioners and advanced practice RNs is well-documented in the literature. What we need to do for the people of Texas is modernize the regulation of APRN practice. This is about access to care, it is not about scope of practice.

---

Chad Dorsey

Self

Little River, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. I Do not work in health care but have been treated by many amazing, knowledgeable, thorough advanced practice nurse practitioners. I was not fully aware of how much having a supervising doctor can hinder access to care. I live in a rural area already and finding doctors can be hard so I'm very thankful for my NP. I'm not sure what I would do if mine wasn't able to pay the supervision fee or if the doctor decided she could no longer treat me for whatever reason. I've seen negative comments on the news and social media at times and it seems there's a push to hold NPs down for some reason. The comments I've heard are unrelatable as my experiences with Nps have always been at least as good as with doctors, and on many occasions better! I had no idea that 31 other states don't even require a supervising doctor for their advanced practice nurses. Why is Texas waiting when millions need better access to care? I SUPPORT HB2029! Thank you for your time.

Chad Dorsey

---

Donna Covey



Texas Nurse Practitioners

Blue Ridge, TX

I am a nurse practitioner working with patient populations that encompass the lifespan. Currently I hold a DNP, MS, FNP-C, AGACNP-BC. My most recent clinical patient satisfaction and quality of care scores were 100%. In this clinical setting there are no physicians on site.

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Donna Covey, DNP, MS, FNP-C, AGACNP-BC

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Kathleen Carroll, NP

self/Nurse Practitioner

Cibolo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

I speak from experience when I say the current burden of ensuring the requirements of the delegation mandate falls to the NP to complete- the MDs are doing little to nothing to comply. This adds considerable burden to the NP's practice with no benefit to the underserved population we serve. I am convinced the mandate exists for political reasons and not for the benefit of our patients. Please lift the mandate and place the responsibility of oversight where it belongs - with the Board of Nursing- I assure you the oversight will be more effective and truly serve your constituents. Thank you!

---

Amber Young

Self

Ben Wheeler, TX

I fully support this bill, HB 2029. I personally have been seen by more nurse practitioners than medical doctors and feel this bill needs to be passed. The state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.?

---

Josh Rocka, MSN, RN, AGACNP-BC, VA-BC

Self

McKinney, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

My family is from a rural area where increased access to healthcare would greatly improve patient outcomes and decrease cost to the healthcare system due to primary prevention. APRNs could play an important role in this.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Camille Watson

Psychiatric Advanced Practice Nurses of Austin

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Christina Bennett

self/APRN

KINGWOOD, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Kaili Yang

Self - medical student

Dallas, TX

As a fourth year medical student matched into pediatrics, I worry about the level and degree of training APRNs have prior to treating patients in the clinical setting. The 18 month-2 year degree (some of which are acquired online), required 500 hours of supervised clinical training and lack of residency are quite concerning to me. As a pediatrician, I would need a MINIMUM of 4 years undergrad, 4 years medical school and 3 years of residency prior to practicing autonomously, all of which far exceeds the requirements of APRNs. The equivalent would be saying that I should be allowed clinical privileges WITHOUT any further supervision by physician overhead HALFWAY through my THIRD year of medical school (because by that point most MS3's would have achieved ~500 hours on clinical rotations). There is clear lack of experience, expertise and knowledge and by allowing increased authority of APRNs without physician overhead is likely to worsen patient outcome. While I understand the "cost effectiveness" approach related to increasing midlevel presence, there is no reason to believe that APRNs will likely move to rural America sites to reduce the medical healthcare gap that the US is currently experiencing. I anticipate increasing licensing and authority of APRNs will worsen patient healthcare outcomes and continue to saturate the market in suburban/urban medical areas.

---

Allyson Smith, FNP

self - Family Nurse Practitioner

Flower Mound, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Mona Ferguson, APRN

Parkview Rural Health Clinic

Mexia, TX

I am a Nurse Practitioner in rural Texas and work front lines to help patients with access to care which is very limited in rural areas. The current restricted authority creates barriers to providing care for patients and prevents access to quality patient care. Patients are left with no care as they are often times unable to travel to places for care if it cannot be provided by an NP due to these barriers created by restrictive authority. Data shows that advanced practice nurses provide a very high level of cost effective quality care. Many other states have removed these restrictions without harm showing relieving cost for patients, insurance payors and health care systems.

---

Jennifer Fiske

Self, Registered Dietitian

Lewisville, TX

As a fellow Healthcare Practitioner, wife, and mom, I'm requesting representatives vote "yes" for HB2029. Women need more affordable access to safe, evidence based care which includes APRNs.

---

Holly Johnson

Self -nurse practitioner

Amarillo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Susan Stone, Family Nurse Practitioner

TNP

Houston, TX

Please support more access & options for Texans by supporting HB 2029

---

SHELLY THOMAS

self

Eules, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

NNEOMA OPARAH, Dr.

Global Essential Services, LLC

WYLIE, TX

Allowing NPs independent practice has been proven to be very beneficial to patients and our healthcare system at large. If NPs were not capable of practicing independently, numerous physicians will not trust them with caring for their patients. Politics, aside, this is the best decision for all stakeholders.

---

Lauren Mitchell

Self

Prosper, TX

Vote Yes to HB 2029

---

chester Jones

Mr. and Mrs. Ray Jones

Irving, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Natalie Raincsuk

Self- RN

Crowley, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Marie Lindley

Texas Nurses Association

dallas, TX

Dear Committee Members,

My name is Marie Lindley. I have been a nurse for 27 years. I have worked in the past as an APRN. I teach full-time to help prepare our next generation of nurses and APRNs. The educational preparation is exceptionally rigorous but needs to be in order to ensure safety and quality care to the public. Nurses have been ranked the number 1 most trusted and ethical profession for 19 years in a row, per Gallup poll surveys. The public trusts us. I ask that you trust that our request for support of this bill is based on research evidence of the effectiveness of APRN practice. I ask you to make your decision to support this bill not out of any political interest but rather based on the knowledge that this bill will help improve the health of the public. I encourage you to support HB 2029 by House Public Health Chair Stephanie Klick when it comes up for consideration today in the House Public Health Committee.

Texas House Bill 2029 would remove unnecessary and unfair barriers to APRNs practicing to the full extent of their education and increase access to health care for Texans.

Supporting HB 2029 allows APRNs to perform the work they're already doing, without the unnecessary administrative and financial burdens that restrict health care to Texans, particularly those in underserved areas. These barriers encourage APRNs to leave Texas in droves to practice in states that have ended physician delegation requirements. None of those 31 states, including Washington D.C. and the V.A., have seen an increase in malpractice or safety issues since removing barriers to APRN practice.

HB 2029 removes outdated and unnecessary constraints on APRN practice while increasing options for quality health care to all Texans, no matter where they live.

I encourage you to support HB 2029 when it is scheduled for your consideration today. Removing the excessive regulations that prevent APRNs from practicing to the full scope of their education will be beneficial for all Texans in search of health care.

I appreciate your consideration!"

Marie Lindley, PhD, RN, CNE

---

Jennifer Seitz

Self

Little Elm, TX

Please vote to remove the restrictions. They are unnecessary and dangerous, limiting people from getting their choice of appropriate care.

---

Donnelle Storrs, DNP, FNP

self nurse practitioner

San Antonio, TX

I support HB 2029. APRNs can address the shortage of healthcare providers that affects millions of Texans. Our current delegation mandate prohibits nurse practitioners from practicing to the fullness of their license. 31 other states, veteran affairs, all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia have removed these restrictions to provide better access to health care for the people they serve. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. Thank you.

---

Renella Boullion, FNP- BC

AANP, TNP

ONALASKA, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Chelsea Wolfington

Self, birth doula

Denton, TX

I support this bill.

---

Judyjane Witte

Self

Schertz, TX

I am writing today in support of HB2029. Millions of Texas live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 state, the V.A. all branches of the military and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. Thank you.

---

Rebecca Taylor

Self

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in healthcare shortage areas and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 other states, the VA, all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. Thank you.

Rebecca Taylor, RN

---

Johnathan Swofford, APRN

Self- Nurse Practitioner

Decatur, TX

Much needed especially in the primary care specialty

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Lauren Vance, BSN-RN

Self - Registered Nurse and MSN Student

Lufkin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Colleen Tucker, Nurse Practitioner

Nurse Practitioners/ Advanced Practice Registered Nurses

Waco, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

I have first hand experience in caring for the elder population and being limited in ways to get healthcare they need. Please allow progress in Texas.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Benny Mitchell, 1LT

Self, Army Officer (TXARNG), IT Senior Product Manager

Frisco, TX

I support 2029. My wife has been an APRN for years. She has never needed her "Supervising Physician". Waste of time and resources.

---

Hayley Peters

Self, Family Nurse Practitioner

Pflugerville, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Alana Cohen

Self-Director of Human Resources, City of Lucas

McKinney, TX

**SUPPORT!**

Texas has the highest uninsured rate in the nation, something like 1/4 of our population. We do NOT want to be #1 in that category. That is a ton of people. Many of those people use clinics that are staffed or owned by Nurse Practitioners. Please get rid of the barriers keeping others from opening clinics. COVID has made health care worse, not better.

---

Meghan Martin, Family & Emergency Nurse Practitioner

Self-Nurse Practitioner

Rockport, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Micah Shumaker

Self

Texas city, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas families, such as mine.

---

Sylwia Baczinskas

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Micah Gamble

myself - 4th year medical student

Deer Park, TX

Advanced practice providers are an essential part of the healthcare workforce in the US. The movement towards focus on mid-level providers highlights key gaps in our medical system as a whole; and they work to provide one solution to the multi-dimensional problem. As a 4th year medical student on the precipice of entering into a rigorous 3 years of family medicine residency, I can say this is a dangerous move. On a personal level, I have completed eight years of training already obtaining my undergraduate and medical degree. I will go onto complete three more years of intentional residency training in my field, with a possible one year fellowship afterwards. This amounts to 11-12 years of training. If I were to overlay my educational track onto what would be required for advanced practice providers to practice independently with the passing of HB 2029, I would have been able to practice medicine independently mid-way through my 3rd year of medical school. I want to point out how incredibly dangerous this would have been for patient safety. Training to practice independently as a physician is rigorous and lengthy for a reason - decision making can sometimes mean life or death for a patient in the form of unsafe medication interactions, unsafe patient discharges, and the inability to critically appraise the degree of sickness within the patient in front of you. These negative consequences would likely have negative effects on healthcare economics; suboptimal care could result in increased hospitalizations, increased medication side effects, and overall increased patient morbidity. While I support the utilization of mid-level providers in the workforce, this is a dangerous move that places perceived financial incentives above the safety of the population.

---

Susan E Johnston, Dr.



Self/Nurse Practitioner

Temple, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Valinda Huck

The Source for Women

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. All branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Darlene Gauthier

Self retired paralegal

San Antonio, TX

I have been treated by licensed nurse practitioners for years and have total confidence in their training and professional care. I totally support this BILL. I believe we saw in the pandemic that we need to find change in the medical community to better provide to patient's needs and this is a positive needed movement forward in expanding patient care.

---

Elizabeth Gray, FNP-C

NTNP

Lantana, TX

I have been a nurse practitioner for 7 years and only meet with my collaborating physician during the required times. My day to day practice does not involve him. If I need additional information about a topic I research it or collaborate with colleagues. My supervising physician has a busy practice of his own and trusts me. NPs have as good if not better outcomes with their patients. Vote Yes!

---

Laura Saine

Self

San Antonio, TX

?

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.?

---

Amber Ostrander

Self-Sales

Plano, TX

Please support this bill. I have two elementary school aged children who regularly see a Pediatric Nurse Practitioner. She is competent and we are very pleased with her care. I'd really rather see her than the Pediatrician as she investigates the social and mental side, as well as the physician side of our well being.

---

Emily Martinez, Ms.

Self, Family Nurse Practitioner

SAN ANTONIO, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029.

Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help.

But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.?

?

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

By not supporting this bill- access to healthcare for millions of Texas is severely limited and will continue to remain that way. Please support HB 2029 and secure healthcare for Texans!

?

---

Mini Jose

Self

Houston, TX

Simply put, this bill will put an end to the exploitation of nurse practitioners from greedy physicians and improve access to care and reduce healthcare costs. Currently, due to delegation requirements, lots of NPs are not able to get into the workforce. If this requirement is removed we can see a phenomenal change in healthcare in Texas.

---

Sheleta Lewis, FNP

Self: Family Nurse Practitioner

Bullard, TX

We are in dire need of removing the barriers that restrict APNs from functioning at their highest level of education. These barriers limit access to healthcare for many.

---

Misty Long

Consortium of Texas Certified Nurse Midwives/Student member

Odessa, TX

This bill is paramount to pass for the citizens of Texas. I live in west Texas where there are no Certified Nurse-Midwife Advance Practice Nurses practicing prenatal care, labor, and delivery services. Texas deserve options for their health care, in this area CNM's are blocked by Physicians who do not want to make contracts with APRN's. APRN's can be trusted with the care that is in their scope of practice, and they can be trusted to transfer patients to physicians when needed. We should not tie the hands of

APRN's in the manner that we currently do. Texans deserve more access to care and there are many APRN's ready to step up and provide that care when they are given the ability to.

---

Kathryn Reveles

Texas Nurse Practitioner

Humble, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

James Young

Self - retired non-profit medical clinic director

Ben Wheeler, TX

I write in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas. I managed a non-profit medical clinic in one of these areas and without the help of APRN's we would not have been able to serve our community. I found APRNs were extremely valuable but often hampered by the lack of available physician oversight (which was never needed). Please remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 other states, the VA and ALL

---

Joan Thurow

Self -retired

San Antonio, TX

I am writing in support of Bill HR 2029.

I have been under the care of an HPRN and physicians assistants and feel that they are very competent and trustworthy.

The state needs to remove the delegation mandate like other states have done.

Please support access and more options for Texas patients.

---

Luisa Moeller

self, nurse

Weatherford, TX

APRNs are trained to be excellent health care providers who work within their scope to serve their communities. APRNs collaborate well and would help our healthcare systems make great strides toward increasing access to care. We all deserve access to quality healthcare - please support this bill so that we can cut the red tape and increase access for all Texans!

---

Deborah Skoruppa

Self/Family Nurse Practitioner and Professor of Nursing

Robstown, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Jaklin Upatham

Self

Dallas, TX

We need to remove restriction on Advanced Practice Nurses so that more Texans can access safe and affordable healthcare. Now more than ever, we need APRNs to be able to provide healthcare to Texans please vote YES!

---

Kris Murray, PMHNP

Self

Santa Fe, TX

Please support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Trudy Meehan, FNP-C

Texas Emergency Nurse Practitioners

San Marcos, TX

I support HB2029.

Texans in many rural areas are more than an hour away from healthcare facilities such as hospitals and clinics. As a Nurse Practitioner I hesitate to practice in one of these underserved locations because of the cost of a collaborative physician makes it financially impossible. I support independent practice for NP's.

---

Dustin Gilcrease

Dustin Gilcrease, MSN, APRN, FNP

Fort Worth, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Amanda Myers

Self

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB2029. I do not work in healthcare, but I have been treated and worked with many wonderful skilled and talented nurse practitioners in numerous settings. I believe requirements that hinder access to qualified and skilled NP's due to supervising Doctor requirements is not a benefit to those seeking treatment when the demand is so high. I SUPPORT HB2029 Thank you for your time.

---

Victoria Klein-Okarte

Self, WHNP-Bc, APRN

Grand Prairie, TX

I fully support HB 2029

---

Toni Brent, Dr.

San Antonio Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners

San Antonio, TX

Please consider approval of this bill granting full practice authority to advance practice registered nurses. There is a shortage of providers in Texas to provide quality care in underserved areas. Advanced practice registered nurses are qualified and can provide a valuable service within the medical community.

---

Katie Ellis

Self

Mckinney, TX

Highly support nurses being able to practice without the added red tape the physician approval requires!

---

Nita Gunn

self

Trophy Club, TX

It's so important to protect the freedom of advanced practice nurses and nurse midwives to safely care for their patients with the full excellence that they have been trained to provide. Their care is important, holistic, and necessary for the health of our Texas communities.

---

Kimberly Cravey, Nurse

Parkview Rural Health Clinic

Mexia, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first,

the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Shanda Neve, RN, MSN APRN student

Self, future APRN

Arlington, TX

I believe in most instances these APRN' s although practicing with a contracted physician, they are fully educated and capable of treating the patients without the physician at time of visit and qualify to treat the pts solely after the initial transition period into their practice.

---

Robin Page, Dr.

self

College Station, TX

As a practicing APRN in Brazos County, I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the VA all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please help provide more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Chelsea Reed

Self - Nurse Practitioner

Irving, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Emily Portis, Certified Nurse-Midwife

Craig Ranch OB/GYN

Celina, TX

As an APRN in the state of Texas, I? support this bill. My education and training allow for safe practice, but the curve restrictions in Texas impede my ability to provide care to the full extent of my ability. Thank you for your consideration.

---

Ashlee Attebery

Self - Web Support Manager

ALLEN, TX

I'm writing in support of HB 2029 so that nurse-midwives and all APRNs can safely care for our communities without unnecessary restrictions on their practices.

---

Cindy KRUEGER, APRN

Optum-United HealthCare

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Tiffany Sanchez, RN

TNP

Corpus Christi, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. APRNs have answered the call to duty during COVID-19 and proven to be deserving of full practice authority.

---

Kendra Harris, FNP-C

Self-FNP

Rowlett, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Tiffany Flood

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Bedford, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Mariam Haque

Self

Mckinney, TX

I support nurse midwives to practice without restrictions

---

Michael Ryan, FNP-C

Self

Shavano Park, TX

Everyday, I take care of Texas patients who have no access to healthcare. Providing them with simple high blood pressure medications to help prolong life and give a higher quality of life to them and their families. My patient population is in rural and urban areas, both groups of people have severe limitations to anyone who can help them. This problem is only getting worse. The restriction placed on APRNs to have a contract with physicians for this simple service places a delay in access of care for these Texas residents. You have a choice, to give greater access to care, or deny it. Choosing wisely could save the life of one of your family members. Thanks for the opportunity for input on this important matter. Feel free to reach out to me for any further comments.

---

Marleen Mar

Self

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Do not work in health care but have been treated by many amazing, knowledgeable, thorough advanced practice nurse practitioners. I was not fully aware of how much having a supervising doctor can hinder access to care. I live in a rural area already and finding doctors can be hard so I'm very thankful for my NP. I'm not sure what I would do if mine wasn't able to pay the supervision fee or if the doctor decided she could no longer treat me for whatever reason. I've seen negative comments on the news and social media at times and it seems there's a push to hold NPs down for some reason. The comments I've heard are unrelatable as my experiences with Nps have always been at least as good as with doctors, and on many occasions better! I had no idea that 31 other states don't even require a supervising doctor for their advanced practice nurses. Why is Texas waiting when millions need better access to care? I SUPPORT HB2029! Thank you for your time.

---

Alana West

Self

Denton, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.?

?

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Kristin Wood, BSN, RN, CNOR

Self

Arlington, TX

As a nurse understand NP's are a vital part of our healthcare. Nurses are independent in our practice of nursing, and are not ruled or governed by other disciplines. Therefore NP's should function independently. On a side note as a patient, it was a NP who listened to me, and diagnosed me with Graves disease when I was super sick. It wasn't an Endocrinologist, OB-gyn, or my PCP. The signs were there, and due to mismanagement by three physicians I became so sick, I almost died. However, Cindy listened and worked with me to get the diagnosis correct. Thanks to a NP, I am alive today. So yes, NP's need to be independent of medicine like they are in other states. Afterall, it's not like you have people wanting to go into medicine for primary care.

---



Kendra Maple, PT, DPT, MPH

Self - Medical Student, soon to be Emergency Medicine resident

Dallas, TX

I believe there is inherent risk in allowing APRNs to practice completely independently, essentially at the the level of a physician without the same level of education. APRNs are not the way to address the primary cary physician shortage or contain healthcare costs.

---

Linda Ynman, Patient Advocate

The Source

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.?

?

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Mary Nye, Fnp

Self and other NPs

Arlington, TX

I have been a NP for 13 yrs and long to have independent practice within my scope of training. Currently I pay a physician to supervise but she does not see patients. This is a waste of resources and income. Please consider this bill.

---

Janet Noles, PhD, APRN, FNP-BC, FAANP

Self - family nurse practitioners

Abilene, TX

I have been family nurse practitioner in Texas since 1996 and have worked in various positions in rural areas, most recently in Olney, Texas. I am writing to urge you to support HB 2029 as advanced practice registered nurses have demonstrated in numerous studies their competence to provide quality care for patients of all ages. In recent past in Texas alone, how many times have the citizens needed additional healthcare providers? Hurricanes, tornados, pandemics - the list could go on. Many APRNs are now educated at the doctoral level and are prepared to provide leadership as well as quality healthcare. Listen to you constituents - the public loves APRNs, the public NEEDs APRNs. Thank you. Dr. Janet Noles

---

Omurkan Finley, NP

Sound Physicians

San Antonio, TX

I support bill HB2029

---

Maria Janssen, Medical Biller

Life Choices Medical Clinic

San Antonio, TX

As an employee I see caring side of all our nurse partitioner and Registered Nurses. Patients always commenting, never received the attention the level of care and treatment, along with the follow up from a regular doctor. They document chart in such detail, because they take care of the patient. They provide a number so if a patient needs additional help the nurse call the patients to answer their questions. It's not an office employee like doctors do. I myself have gotten treated by NP, which I prefer over a Doctor that looks at the bottom number so rushes through exam or does even take time to just listen to the heart beat. Keep NP and Nurse as independent decisions maker. They care about doing things the right way and take time to care for each of their patients. They're self sufficient.

---

Roger Nue

Self

Arlington, TX

Please pass the bill for independent NP practice.

---

Natalia Berg

Self

Frisco, TX

I am for this bill. Please remove all restrictions!

---

Kassandra Wilkes

Self - RN

Humble, TX

APRNs are highly skilled and professionally educated and trained providers more than capable of practicing at their full scope and can help ensure all Texans have access to quality health care.

---

Christina Sanchez

Self - Family Nurse Practitioner

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Maria Maldonado, RN, FNP-c

Parkview Rural Health Clinic

Mexia, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Shannon Spratt, APRN FNPBC

The Source

San Antonio, TX

Allow APRN to practice without collaborating physicians

---

Dorian Cerrato, APRN

NTNP

Irving, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Courtney Ratheal

Self

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.?

?

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

April Oglesby, BSN, RNC-NIC, SNM

Certified Nurse Midwives, APRNs

Amarillo, TX

Please consider passage of HB 2029 so that my community can have better access to healthcare and specifically midwifery services which are currently limited due to outdated restrictions on APRN licensure. Passage of this bill will improve mother and baby birth outcomes in my community and in the State of Texas. Texans deserve better access to healthcare and unrestricted APRNs can meet this need.

---

Tammie Michael, DNP APRN, AGPCNP-BC

self

Texas City, TX

I am writing in support of SB 2029. Access to care for our elderly population, especially in the homebound setting is crucial. Advanced Practice Registered Nurses bridge the gap and provide excellent primary care to this population. 31 other states including the VA and District of Columbia have removed the delegation mandate and support APRN care. Please support more options and access to care for Homebound senior Texans and support HB 2029.

Thank you for your support

Dr. Tammie Michael DNP, APRN, AGPCNP-BC

Adult-Geriatric Primary Care Nurse Practitioner

---

Robin Smoczyk

Self- APRN

Houston, TX

I am requesting that Texans be provided access to more healthcare options to include APRNs with full practice authority. Texas should lead the way in the South and break down the barriers to provide greater access and options.

---

Amee Stoneman, BSN, RN

TNP student member

PEARLAND, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. As a future APRN, I believe lifting this mandate will improve access to affordable care for many. The state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Chavernay Perron

self

SAN ANTONIO, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Kristin Sagebiel, GNP

Self

Marble falls, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of

Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Renaud Rodrigue, MD

Self-Physician

Dallas, TX

Supporting HB 2029. Over the past 20 years, I've employed probably 15+ Nurse Practitioners and Physician Assistants. I believe most NPs and PAs are employed by physicians and will continue to be so. All health care providers need to have their own responsibility for their own practice. It's ridiculous that we must have "documented" monthly meetings, when I see them 20x a day. Anything that we talk about has already happened. If they need help, they ask immediately, but they rarely need any kind of assistance, and if they do they text me from the next room. And a practice contract-really? They have their own license and I have mine. Current supervision rules are worthless and time-consuming. If they aren't doing a good job, I will fire them. That's the way it works in business. Please keep up with technology and the current times.

---

Patricia Gross, LM, CPM

Self/Midwife

Decatur, TX

As a professional who supports access to the Midwives Model of Care, I support HB 2029, to remove barriers to care from Certified Nurse Midwives and Licensed Midwives

---

Cynthia Malowitz, APRN, FNP-C

Bay Area Quick Care

Corpus Christi, TX

I have owned a healthcare clinic in a federally designated 'Health Professional Shortage Area' of Corpus Christi for 11 years. The clinic is staffed with nurse practitioners (NPs). We provide low cost, high quality healthcare to patients who fall through the cracks. The majority of our patients can't afford medical insurance, yet don't qualify for government subsidized healthcare. We have saved the health care system hundreds of thousands, if not millions, of dollars by keeping people out of the hospital. I also own a practice in a medically underserved area of Arizona, where I don't have to deal with ridiculously restrictive laws that deny my patients the care they need to stay healthy. Get with it Texas! It is time to let NPs practice to the full extent of their license! STOP THE OPPRESSION!

---

Kevin Stump, NP

Magnolia Psychiatry

Cypress, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Amy Miller

NTNP

Plano, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Texas Nurse Practitioners  
4425 S. MoPac Expressway  
Austin, TX 78735  
512-291-6224

---

Soraya Fletcher

Self

The Colony, TX

Provide access to care without limiting the NP scope of practice that has been awarded license by the board of nursing

---

Ana Rentzel, S-FNP

Self, S-FNP

Godley, TX

Please consider to give Nurse Practitioners full authority to practice in rural area without a contractual obligation to a physician. Our patients are suffering or dying for lack of healthcare access, because we cannot provide our services to rural population. It's in the best interest of the patients that we start covering up the huge gaps in rural population health coverage.

---

Fuqin Liu, Dr.

Fuqin Liu

Denton, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Tim Debysingh

Self-Pharmaceutical Sales

Ft Worth, TX

I support this bill. Being in pharmaceutical sales, I receive many calls for samples, usually from midlevel providers and nurses. They are the ones that care enough about their indigent patients to scrounge around for samples or whatever the patients need to receive proper treatment. Wish everyone cared as much as they do for the overall patient welfare.

---

Dawn Berger, NP  
self/Optum HouseCalls  
Haltom City, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

BALRAJ KAUR  
Self, NP  
Plano, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Tami Dittburner, NP  
Friendlyneighborhood Health Clinic  
Harlingen, TX

I live and operate a health care clinic in an underserved area of Texas. Many of my patients do not have health insurance and my \$40 dollar visit allow them to received care prior to becoming sicker and ending up in the ER. Currently my delegating physician signs forms required to order wheelchair, walkers and home health care which has become quite a barrier time wise for my patients. The savings cost for my clinic by not requiring a delegating physician would allow us to maintain our low cost visits. It also would help her utilize her skills in the hospital where she is needed.  
Please remove the delegation mandate just like 31 states have already done!

---

Wondwessen Kebede, FNP  
Self  
Mckinney, TX

I am supporting the HB2029, because this will significantly increase health care access to our residents of Texas.

---

Brenda Olmos  
Self - Nurse Practitioner  
Austin, TX

My name is Brenda Olmos, and I am an APRN in Texas practicing in primary care and teaching APRNs at a state university.

I encourage you to support HB 2029 by House Public Health Chair Stephanie Klick when it comes up for consideration today in

the House Public Health Committee.

Texas House Bill 2029 would remove unnecessary and unfair barriers to APRNs practicing to the full extent of their education and increase access to health care for Texans.

Supporting HB 2029 allows APRNs to perform the work they're already doing, without the unnecessary administrative and financial burdens that restrict health care to Texans, particularly those in underserved areas. These barriers encourage APRNs to leave Texas in droves to practice in states that have ended physician delegation requirements. None of those 31 states, including Washington D.C. and the V.A., have seen an increase in malpractice or safety issues since removing barriers to APRN practice.

HB 2029 removes outdated and unnecessary constraints on APRN practice while increasing options for quality health care to all Texans, no matter where they live.

I encourage you to support HB 2029 when it is scheduled for your consideration today. Removing the excessive regulations that prevent APRNs from practicing to the full scope of their education will be beneficial for all Texans in search of health care.

I appreciate your consideration!

---

Jennifer Macia, MD

Self; Pediatrician

Bellaire, TX

I am opposed to this bill. Nurses are an essential part of the medical team and should practice at the top of their abilities and training; however this does not include the unlimited and supervised practice of medicine with prescribing authority. There is a reason that physicians undergo thousands of hours of training and are subject to rigorous CME and licensing requirements. It would be dangerous for the public health to allow APNs to practice medicine without medical training and/or oversight.

---

Tisa Douglas

Self APRN, FNP

DESOTO, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Lauren Perez, Mrs

MD Anderson Cancer Center

League city, TX

There is a need to action now! Nurse Practitioners are vital to our community. They save cost and improve patient outcomes. Nurse Practitioners help close the gaps in patient care! Other states allow them to practice independently. It is time for Texas to do the same.

---

Adrienne Jones, MSN, APRN, CNM

Modern Midwifery & Wellness

Dallas, TX



Please vote yes for this bill.  
Thank you!

---

Richard Seldeen  
North Texas Nurse Practitioners Association  
Lewisville, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Jimmy Williams  
Self-Retired; Parent of Adult Mentally Retarded Son  
Duncanville, TX

Please pass this bill. I am the parent of an adult mentally retarded son. He has Fragile X syndrome. He has Medicaid and very few medical offices with take him as a patient. We found the most wonderful nurse practitioner, and not far from our home. No other doctors have ever had the patience to deal with him. We are very satisfied with the quality of care we are receiving.

---

Ryann Rathbone  
Clear Water Psychiatry & Wellness  
Austin, TX

I am a nurse practitioner and business owner. This bill would remove limitations. I am constantly worried that my business would be unsustainable due to doctors situations, whims, and also the high cost of paying MDs to delegate. This would leave my NPs, business and most importantly patients without the care and resources they need. We want to be able to serve underserved and rural communities...

Please consider allowing NPs to fully practice.

---

Mark Malowitz  
Bay Area Quick Care, PLLC  
Corpus Christi, TX

Texas has more medically underserved areas than anywhere else in the country, yet politicians refuse to allow nurse practitioners to practice unrestricted in these areas. Patients SUFFER when they don't have access to healthcare. WHY DO OUR POLITICIANS BOW AT THE FEET OF THE TEXAS MEDICAL ASSOCIATION? What are their members afraid of...competition? If you are a physician and you're losing patients to the NP across the street, I suggest you look in the mirror and figure out why that's the case. This is a RESTRAINT OF TRADE ISSUE. If a patient wants to be treated by a nurse practitioner, then that is THEIR CHOICE.

---

Lauren Tezak, APRN  
President of Houston Area Nurse Practitioners  
Houston, TX

This pandemic perfectly demonstrated not only the need for lifted restrictions of APRNs but how they have always and will continue to step up and serve their community. We are able to serve the underprivileged for a fraction of the cost yet are able to provide quality care for the fraction of the price.

Despite what the medical community would have you think, we are not trying to replace physicians. We are offering ourselves to work alongside them so that as health providers...we can extend our reach and still provide the top notch care that all Texans deserve.

Lauren Tezak MS APRN  
President Houston Area Nurse Practitioners

---

Tayla Ward  
Kueo Birth Center  
Flower Mound, TX

As a consumer who supports access to the Midwives Model of Care, I support HB 2029, to remove barriers to care from Certified Nurse Midwives, Certified Professional Midwives, and Licensed Midwives.

---

Lori Spies  
Texas Nurse Practitioners  
Sunnyvale, TX

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. As a nurse, researcher, and Family Nurse Practitioner, I am writing today in support of HB 2029. There are millions of Texans living in health care shortage areas, and nurse practitioners and all APRNs can provide health care where it is most needed. Our state needs to remove the delegation mandate, as has been done throughout the Veterans Administration, all branches of the military, and 31 states and the District of Columbia already have. Please help the most respected of health care providers meet the needs of Texans.

Thank you,  
Lori A. Spies, PhD, APRN, FNP-C

---

Nkechi Ezema, Psych np  
Patterns Psychiatry  
Pantego, TX

I'm writing today in support of HB2029. Millions of Texans Live in Healthcare shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

I am in private practice. I have a collaborative physician. Though he is great, the need of a collaborative physician in Texas not only restricts my practice, it prevents my from hiring more providers, expanding my business, and of course serving the population I love best, women mental health. I hope this bill passes. Not only for my clients but for business.

---

Kelly Bowman  
TNP  
Dallas, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Thank you,  
Kelly Bowman AGACNP

---

Sandra Viscon, DNP  
self-Family Nurse Practitioner  
Canutillo, TX

As a practicing registered nurse for 15 years and now as an advanced nurse practitioner for last 10 years, I see the need for healthcare access daily. This is not a competition between nurses and medical doctors, but rather a means by which Texans can access the healthcare they so desperately need. By eliminating the delegation bond that ties advanced practice nurses it will open more healthcare access to those Texans that need it. In the last 30 years of my career I have seen many changes in healthcare, many not good for the patient, HB2029 will be one that will definitely benefit every one of our patients. Vote for H.B. 2029!

---

Kimberly Becker, Clinic Director  
Falls Community Hospital and Clinic  
Marlin, TX

Stipulations and overbearing oversight should be removed in order for these providers to care for their patients in an appropriate and timely manner. These individuals are highly trained and more than capable of making treatment decisions on their own

---

Traci Santangelo  
Myself  
Flower Mound, TX

Texans need affordable options in healthcare. They need access. And APRNs are trained in their area of expertise. Let APRNs practice to the full extent of their licensure. Stop allowing the TMA to control and dictate the narrative that is self-serving, rather than serving Texans that want affordable and accessible healthcare.

---

Sabrina Flores, BSN, RN FNP- student  
Self  
San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Heather Bridgeford, APRN

Self, Advanced Practice Registered Nurse or Nurse Practitioner

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

James Grissett, APRN, MSN, FNP-C

Self, Family Nurse Practitioner

Buffalo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Patricia Rogers, DNP, APRN, AGPNP-BC

Self, Educator NP

Plano, TX

Texans deserve quality Healthcare. Nurse Practitioners are well-positioned to provide for the needs of all Texans. This is especially true for those Texans that are medically undeserved and live in rural settings, it is especially encumbant that Nurse Practitioners be permitted to provide the care needed and to practice to their full scope as Full Practice Authority (FPA) Providers. I urge you to make FPA a right for all Texans

---

Folashade Asekun, Nurse practitioner

NP

Arlington, TX

Empower APN. We give great service and care to patients

---

Kristen Chou, DR.

Self

richardson, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Carsen Kwolek

Self

Killeen, TX

Reducing restrictions on APRNs will increase access to care for vulnerable populations, increase job availability for APRNs thus stimulating the economy, alleviate some burden on a taxed system, and improve healthcare for all Texans. Please pass this bill to increase availability of Certified Nurse Midwives, which studies have shown to improve birth outcomes for women and babies.

---

Tracy Dorsey

Self- Educational Diagnostician

Little River Academy, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Do not work in health care but have been treated by many amazing, knowledgeable, thorough advanced practice nurse practitioners. I was not fully aware of how much having a supervising doctor can hinder access to care. I live in a rural area already and finding doctors can be hard so I'm very thankful for my NP. I'm not sure what I would do if mine wasn't able to pay the supervision fee or if the doctor decided she could no longer treat me for whatever reason. I've seen negative comments on the news and social media at times and it seems there's a push to hold NPs down for some reason. The comments I've heard are unrelatable as my experiences with Nps have always been at least as good as with doctors, and on many occasions better! I had no idea that 31 other states don't even require a supervising doctor for their advanced practice nurses. Why is Texas waiting when millions need better access to care? I SUPPORT HB2029! Thank you for your time.

---

Kristina King, RN, Student Nurse Midwife

Self

SWEENY, TX

I support the Delegation removal bill. It would allow advanced practice nurses to practice to the full scope of their training.

---

Tracy Ayers, RN

Self/Current Registered nurse/FNP student

Caldwell, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Hong Xiang

HennaCare LLC

Garland, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, Texas health care system has been greatly challenged during pandemic. APRNs are the answer to those issues. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Granting

APRNs full authority to practice will improve Texas health care system and provide access to health care for millions of Texans.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Kristen Gomez, RN

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Dallas, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. This mandate only serves to benefit those profiting off the supervision of advanced practice nurses, and not the residents of Texas.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Clare Chan, Nurse practitioner

Self

Austin, TX

In TX, Nurse practitioners pay fees to physicians to practice in private offices. There is no obligation for the physician to see the NPs' patients.

This regulation costs tens of thousands of dollars to NPs who are practicing.

Furthermore, removing barriers opens access to patients who would otherwise seek care in the ERs, or delay their care resulting in complications and huge costs to our medical system.

Physical Therapy requires a physician to order. Why?

When patients need care to get better, their care relies on a physician who has never laid eyes on them to sign paperwork. This burden can be fulfilled competently by NPs.

---

Joshua Cox, Nurse Practitioner

Self Neonatal Nurse Practitioner

Fort Worth, TX

Texas needs to join the other 31 states who have removed regulatory restrictions on nurse practitioners to practice autonomously. This is preventing Texans from accessing life saving healthcare, by qualified and board certified nurse practitioners. Studies after studies, have provided solid proof that nurse practitioners deliver safe, quality, and cost saving medical services. We are at crisis levels in the healthcare community. Time again and again patients are foregoing preventative care and utilizing emergency services. Often when their medical problems have become so detrimental to their well being, the burden is placed on the community and state at a much higher fiscal cost.

---

Ron Peraza

TNP

MIDLAND, TX

I've been a nurse practitioner for almost 10 years and I've always worked with physicians . I've worked with great physicians but at the same time have been delayed my decisions concerning care of my patients, by allowing nurse practitioners to practice to their full extent without need to discuss these medical choices with physicians or paying them a monthly fee to allow us to make the same decisions. These outdated restraints have mired our ability to open our own practice and take care of patients the way we feel is the best for their health.

---

Sarah DuBose, APRN, FNP-C, PCNS-BC

self - Nurse Practitioner & Clinical Nurse Specialist

Beaumont, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Sherryl Katinga, FNP

Self, FNP

Wylie, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Isabelle Nyota, APRN, PMHNP-BC

Self

Roanoke, TX

Many Texans live in health care shortage areas and APRNS can help. But FirstTexas needs to get rid of the delegation mandate just like 31 other states, the VA, all other branches of the military and the District of Columbia have already done.

Please support more access and options for Texas patients And support HB 2029.

Thank you

---

regina vadney

Self certified nurse-midwife

Canutillo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. I am an Advanced Practice Nurse (APN) and Certified Nurse-Midwife (CNM) in El Paso, Texas. I am from rural upstate New York and after completion of my education at Yale University in 2005 I relocated to El Paso Texas to work at a health center that served the uninsured. After relocating to Texas I learned that APN's in Texas required a written contract with a physician in order to care for patients. Due to this regulation I was planning on leaving the state of Texas after my three year contract was complete.

Due to personal issues I was unable to leave El Paso and there were not any Obstetricians in the city of El Paso who were willing

to work with CNM's. The current law in Texas requiring APN's to have a written contract for supervision is interpreted by most obstetricians as them assuming responsibility and hence, liability for the decisions that I make in caring for my patients. There are no obstetricians in El Paso that will take that risk and responsibility. Due to my inability to work independent of a physician in Texas my only options for employment were with the Army or one mile from my house in New Mexico. In 2009, I began a midwifery position at William Beaumont Army Medical Center where APN's have full practice authority.

There are extensive studies spanning decades that prove the safety and cost effectiveness of midwifery care. The opponents of HB 2029 claim that they want to protect patients by requiring supervision of APNs but the research does not support this. In reality physicians are using these archaic unnecessary mandates requiring APRNs to have a contract with them in order to restrict our ability to compete for patients. Improving the health of women and infants in the state of Texas is my priority. The priority of my physician colleagues is money not patient safety. As a midwife I will always utilize an obstetrician for referral and consultation of patients that are not within my scope of practice. The identification of these patients was a primary component of my education at Yale University.

There is absolutely no incentive for me to stay in El Paso once I am finished childrearing in 4 years. My spouse and I have not decided where we will relocate but the primary factor that will be considered is whether I will be able to work independently in the profession of midwifery. The state of Texas needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A., all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. I hope that you will take the time to listen and consider what my APN colleagues present today. I can improve the health of women and infants in Texas but if the law does not allow for my full ability to practice my profession I will take my skills and future business to a state where I am welcomed.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Sincerely,

Regina Vadney CNM

---

Melissa Skinner, FNP-C

SELF

Corsicana, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Bijal Patel

None

Flower mound, TX

I 100%support this bill as a current Advance Practice Provider

---

Chasity Harris

Self

Little River Academy, TX



I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Do not work in health care but have been treated by many amazing, knowledgeable, thorough advanced practice nurse practitioners. I was not fully aware of how much having a supervising doctor can hinder access to care. I live in a rural area already and finding doctors can be hard so I'm very thankful for my NP. I'm not sure what I would do if mine wasn't able to pay the supervision fee or if the doctor decided she could no longer treat me for whatever reason. I've seen negative comments on the news and social media at times and it seems there's a push to hold NPs down for some reason. The comments I've heard are unrelatable as my experiences with NPs have always been at least as good as with doctors, and on many occasions better! I had no idea that 31 other states don't even require a supervising doctor for their advanced practice nurses. Why is Texas waiting when millions need better access to care? I SUPPORT HB2029! Thank you for your time.

---

Sonya Rodrigue

Self-full-time stay at home Mom

Granbury, TX

In SUPPORT of HB2029.

I have 10 year old twin girls, premature, many developmental disabilities, mental disabilities, in special school. They have gone through every kind of testing imaginable. Previously tried medication with Psychiatrist-not a good experience. Currently being seen by Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner, who has been working with us on behavioral and social skills. The girls are so much better. Please fix laws to support Nurse Practitioners.

---

Lori Ehrman

Self

Farmersville, TX

We are in need of greater access to healthcare. Generally I always choose nurse practitioners for my care because of the competent care I have received on the last several decades. Please allow them greater freedom to practice in Texas.

---

Kiarra Vining, Miss

Self-BSN, RN, PCCN (Registered Nurse)

Bryan, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. There are millions of Texans that live in health care shortage areas. Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) can help immensely. First, however, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A., all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Most APRN's have practiced at the bedside for years becoming obtaining their APRN license; most have practiced the same amount of years that medical school lasts, maybe more. To practice more efficiently for our patients, we need full practice authority with no delegation.

---

Jasmin Schumacher

self, midwife

Haltom City, TX

As a consumer who supports access to the Midwives Model of Care, I support HB 2029, to remove barriers to care from Certified Nurse Midwives.

---

Alisabeth Haddon, DNP, ARNP

Self- Nurse Practitioner

New Braunfels, TX

I am a travel nurse practitioner with 9 state licenses. Texas is my home state where I was born and raised. It's disappointing that Texas is the most limiting state to practice in as a nurse practitioner.

---

Jaclyn Liewer

self

Keller, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Texas Nurse Practitioners  
4425 S. MoPac Expressway  
Austin, TX 78735  
512-291-6224

---

Stella Kingodi, APRN

Self

Dallas, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Lisa Taylor, Dr

self

Waxahachie, TX

I am writing today in SUPPORT of HB 2029.

Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and SUPPORT HB 2029.

---

Martha Caballero

Self -self employed

San Antonio, TX

I have been a patient of nurse practitioners for several years. The experience they carry has always been excellent and knowledgeable. In my experience, I can say I am always feeling confident I will be attended to with the best medical experience, and in some cases they knew enough to refer to a specialist if needed. I hope they will be looked at as capable and knowledgeable enough to attend to patients without a doctor having to oversee.

Thank you.

---

Andrey Sokolov

Sokolov design solutions

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Karah Meneley

Self

New Braunfels, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Rebecca Simon

self, registered nurse

Bryan, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Allin Mathew

TPAPN

Carrollton, TX

Texas needs independent APRN practice NOW. We are restricted by the mandates placed on us via physicians. Allow us to practice within our scope and serve the people of Texas the way they deserve to.

---

Beverly Rhodes

Self, Nurse Practitioner

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Andreina Dominguez

Self

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Do not work in health care but have been treated by many amazing, knowledgeable, thorough advanced practice nurse practitioners. I was not fully aware of how much having a supervising doctor can hinder access to care. I live in a rural area already and finding doctors can be hard so I'm very thankful for my NP. I'm not sure what I would do if mine wasn't able to pay the supervision fee or if the doctor decided she could no longer treat me for whatever reason. I've seen negative comments on the news and social media at times and it seems there's a push to hold NPs down for some reason. The comments I've heard are unrelatable as my experiences with Nps have always been at least as good as with doctors, and on many occasions better! I had no idea that 31 other states don't even require a supervising doctor for their advanced practice nurses. Why is Texas waiting when millions need better access to care? I SUPPORT HB2029! Thank you for your time.

---

Blake Williams

Self -Acute Care Nurse Practitioner

Belton, TX

Texas already lacks affordable access to healthcare. By taking this restriction away from advance practice nurses it is a step in the right direction to help bridge that gap. As a conservative and native Texan I believe this is the right thing to do for our community. Help us be able to provide evidence based care with less hurdles. Thank you

---

Nicole Kroll, Dr.

Self - Nurse Practioner - Certified Adult and Family

College Station, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Meghan Castle, APRN DNP Student (RN)

Baylor University - Louise Herrington School of Nursing

Cypress, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Joyce Dains, Dr.

Self/Nurse Practitioner

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Linda Imoh

#1: No; #2: Operations and Taxes

Allen, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. I have owned my practice the past five years and have, along with other NPs I hired, seen and provided excellent care to our patients, that they have not had a reason to switch to another. Many patients are still in need of providers but we are unable to afford more providers due to the heavy fee we pay to physician supervisors for each NP. It must be noted that in these past 5 years, non of the physician collaborators has seen any of our patients. They just do that which is required by state, meetings and chart review, which do not constitute seeing a patient. Our patients have experienced improved care since the CARES act removed restrictions on hone health POC, because NPs are able to sign others in a timely manner without delays in care provisions while waiting for a physician signature. If that alone can improve quality of care and life of patients, imagine how excellent our health system and patient care will be if NPs can practice at full potentials. NPs are licensed and certified, and are ultimately responsible for the care they render. Healthcare is team work and will always require collaboration of all involved without draining some to enrich the other. Physician collaboration is more of a lucrative business for physicians than it is for patient care.

Let us not go by titles, persons, or groups, or what group has more money to fight a cause, rather, Let us look at what the other states with full practice have gained or lost, and let that be our yardstick. Patient care and health care access first.

---

Elishia Featherston

True Connections Pediatrics

Eules, TX

As a APRN in Texas and a business owner of a Pediatric and adult primary care office I highly support this bill. I have been an APRN for 14 years in Texas and this bill will make huge changes in access to care. I struggle as a business owner to have my practice open because of the law as is. I pay an MD 1500/month just to keep my doors open. This is an expense that would better be used to supporting my office and patients. I serve underserved populations and this cost is cost prohibitive to NP business owners. It is also a restriction of trade. I have a doctorate degree in nursing and cannot work in my profession without supervision. I am independently seeing patient in my office and have to pay someone else a monthly fee to work. That is unnecessary and I am not any safer as a provider because of that piece of paper. We are still able to consult any other provider just as we are now without this law. It is simply a barrier to care and ties the hands of APRN by making it a cost barrier to be able to see patients.

---

Phyllis Harding-Nichols, Precinct chair 1-4  
Wood County Election Judge and Precinct Chair  
Mineola, TX

We the people support this bill, we are a very small rural community in Golden Texas and have a "Homegrown" young man that is enrolled in Baylor doctorate program for Nurse Practitioner and would like to see this bill pass allowing him to better serve his community.

---

Kimberly Johnson  
Self - Nurse Practitioner  
Missouri City, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.  
Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Irene Amoako-Attah, NP  
Self  
Anahuac, TX

I support this bill and speaking from experience and living in a rural county, this will allow NP's in primary care and rural health clinics practice to their full potential. This in turn will help Texans have access to healthcare. This bill saves NP's thousands of dollars a year and prevents delay in providing services to patients.

---

Dana Koenning, NP  
BoBeauty  
Friendswood, TX

Please update this unnecessary law that only acts to extract money from one professional to another. I have a wonderful physician right now, however, in the past, I dealt with those who took full advantage of the monetary gains without doing any due diligence. Then, if they feel threatened from a business perspective, they will go out of their way to try to ruin our livelihood. Needs to stop. There's too much bullying and taking advantage of people with this law. Nurse Practitioners are safe, effective, and the clients choose them a lot. Thank you.

---

Mallory Gurecki, APRN  
Self, nurse practitioner  
Sugar land, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Ruth Okpara, APRN

Self, Nurse Practitioner

Plano, TX

I have worked independently as an APRN for 6 years and my supervising physician is remote. I have continued to safely care for my patients without a physician presence at my work place. It is vital to allow APRNs practice to the fullest extent of their education. We are well trained to care for our patients independently. Removing unnecessary contracts or physician supervision will allow us care for patients in underserved areas at a cheaper rate. Health is a right for all regardless of your lot in life. A healthy nation, is a win for all Americans.

The current pandemic has proven that APRNs can practice independently without physician supervision, hence now is the time to remove the unnecessary contracts. Physicians charge a lot for these supervision and it is not right to APRNs who benefits little or nothing from their supervision.

Nearly half of the states in the US have adopted full practice authority and these dates access to care have improved with better health outcomes.

Please, grant APRNs in Texas with full practice authority.

---

Winter Honig Peuziat, NP

Self Nurse Practitioner

Llano, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Julie Zuniga

Muneer Assi DO PA

El Paso, TX

I support HB 2029. Please remove delegation requirements for APRNs so they can practice to their full authority and bring healthcare safely to millions of Texans!

---

Tecklar Machaya

Self

Cypress, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Christian Cade, DC

self

McKinney, TX

I am in support of HB 2029.

---

Calvin Choi, MSN, APRN, CPNP-AC, CPN

Self, Acute Care Pediatric NP

Houston, TX

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Lisa Kennedy, FNP-C

Self/ Family Nurse Practitioner

Woodsboro, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Sarah Wall, ACNP

UT Health

Rosharon, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Inola Mello, Dr.

Self Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (Nurse Practitioner)

Lubbock, TX

I am writing today in strong support of HB 2029. Delegation mandates for experienced APRNs negatively affects patient care access for multiple reasons (exorbitant costs for APRNs paying for "collaboration" agreements, decreases patient appointment access due to required meetings vs spontaneous collaborative visits as a health care team, etc.) 31 states, the VA, all branches of the military, and Washington DC have all removed delegation mandates without any negative impact on patient care and patient care outcomes. Don't be fooled by TMA's arguments and let Texas make a positive change for the health care of it's people!

Your support of HB 2029 would allow for more health care access and more patient options for their health care providers. This bill is timely and necessary on the health care front!

Thank you



Wanda Hilliard

Self

Austin, TX

Evidenced based healthcare supports the need for the role of the NP on the healthcare team. Cost savings and quality care are proven and supported by outcomes by independent groups who have audited this findings. Please support this bill. Thank you  
Wanda Hilliard

---

Jett Miller

Self-Tele-communication sales

Abilene, TX

I would like for you to pass House Bill 2029. As I've worked various jobs around the west Texas area, many times I've been without health insurance. If it weren't for the care I received from my Nurse Practitioner for a cheap cash price, I'd have no care.

---

Laura Benton, APRN, AGCNS-BC

Self - Advanced Practice Registered Nurse, Clinical Nurse Specialist

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Coralys Robles Vargas, RN

self

Austin, TX

As a Nurse Practitioner student, I am writing to ask that you support H.B. 2029.

Every day I see examples of how outdated statute interferes with patient care. Contributing to this issue, is current Texas law that makes it illegal for advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs), like me, to practice our profession and care for patients without maintaining a regulated agreement with a physician. There is no evidence that this restriction provides added benefits for patients, rather it only serves to limit the reach of NPs ability to care for our patients, further exacerbating Texas' existing health care provider shortages.

H.B. 2029 provides an opportunity for Texas to retire this red tape and serve as a leader to our neighbors in providing its citizens with better access to quality health care.

- H.B. 2029 would retire the requirement for nurse practitioners (NPs) to have a delegation agreement with a physician. There is no evidence to show that these requirements are needed for public safety, and the requirement has negative impacts that restrict patient access to NP-services.
- In fact, nearly half of all U.S. states and D.C. as well as two territories currently authorize NPs to practice and care for patients without a state-mandated, career-long collaborative relationship.

- These changes would move Texas into closer alignment with the national licensure model for nurse practitioners.

I ask your support of H.B. 2029.

With Great Anticipation!

Coralys D. Robles Vargas, RN, BSN, CCRN, DNP-FNP (c)

---

Carmen Choumont, RN

Alamo Area Psychiatric Nurse Association

Converse, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Maurice Mims

Self/ Nurse Practitioner

Pearland, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Stacy Tackett, APRN

TNA

Richardson, TX

Please support HB 2029 to allow the resource of nurse practitioners to be fully utilized to meet the Healthcare needs of communities in Texas.

---

Kate Chi

Self

Southlake, TX

APRNs are well educated and trained healthcare force that can balance healthcare disparities and decrease national shortage.

---

Danielle Ebron, APRN

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Cypress, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

CLIFFORD HODGINS

self

Round Rock, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Leslie Everett, Mrs

Self

Ovilla, TX

Dear Representative Klick,

I hope that you will represent all the Advanced Practice Nurses in Texas and vote in favor for provider autonomy from a supervising physician. Physician oversight is not necessary for the majority of care that APRNs deliver to residents and patients in Texas and is time-consuming, redundant and reduces overall income for the APRN that is highly trained to care for a designated patient population. Most physicians are signing charts after the APRN has seen and treated the patient, having often never seen in person the patients that APRNs manage and treat. The models of care that other states in the nation are using for APRNs to practice without a supervising physician are working quite well and there's a reason for that. During these escalating times of healthcare tensions and lack of physicians in our country, APRNs in Texas could and should be utilized to the full extent of their training and expertise without the supervising authorities of the physician. Please consider this issue with careful thought in this committee and I thank you for your efforts.

Sincerely,

Leslie Everett, APRN, FNP-BC

---

Latisha Wilson, APRN

Houston Methodist Hospital

Richmond, TX

APRN related to licensing and authority

---

Trina Viville, FNP

HANP

Rosharon, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of

Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Diane Almand

Self

Highland Village, TX

Any bill relaxing or modernizing the supervision requirements on APRN's should also provide the same for PA's. PA's receive more in depth medical education than NP's and are yet being pushed out of job opportunities because NP's are lobbying successfully for bills such as this one. Please only consider a policy that provides for equal ability of PA'S and NP'S to provide care to patients.

---

Dana Hong, Fnp-BC

Self - FNP-BC / Lung transplant NP

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage and as this pandemic has shown, an all hands on deck approach is needed to combat this. Many studies have shown that care from an APRN are equal to or superior in some cases in terms of outcomes, quality and effectiveness of care. Currently, 31 states, the VA, military and DC have all removed the delegation mandate. I urge the state of Texas to move this legislation forward and remove this outdated mandate for the benefit of Texans. Thank you in advance for your time

---

Leticia Maldonado

HANP

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Kayleigh Todd, NP

self

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

The delegation mandate serves only to limit APRNs and confers no safety check on practice as we have been led to believe and at this time serves primarily to line pockets of delegating physicians of APRN owned clinics. This is an archaic limitation to APRN practice.

---

Catherine Cottle Basma, Mrs.

Self

Fort Worth, TX

APRNs have completed adequate levels of education and many have several years in the medical field prior to completing their Masters/Doctorate program. They are utilized in many facets of the medical community and are trusted to deliver safe and effective care by patients and doctors alike. Allowing practitioners prescriptive authority and autonomy will enable greater ease in treating patients, while lifting the financial burden of employing physicians to oversee controlled substances. Many states have already lifted the sanctions attached to prescriptive authority and Texas should be included in this movement. My hope is that Texas can be at the forefront of medical innovation and change for the better.

---

Danielle Hawkins, MSN, FNP

Self

Prosper, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

A lot of people here have a misunderstanding of what “full practice authority & restricted practice” really means. Opponents of this bill make it seem like if it passes APRNs will be practicing without any accountability, that we’re overstepping or trying to make ourselves equal to physicians and the biggest lie that it’s a patient safety issue. Having practiced as a Nurse Practitioner in both Alaska, one of the least restrictive states and Texas - one of if not THE most restrictive states I can tell you that isn’t true. I actually have less oversight in the job I have now than in Alaska. Healthcare is always approached as a team. Currently, I provide quality healthcare and I know my limits. I have several physician mentors that I call when I need help & funny enough non of them are my official collaborator. Removing restrictions wouldn’t change this.

Texas’s pride themselves on representing freedom but they don’t have a choice as patients to choose a NP to be their provider, & restrictions not only limit access to care but NPs to negotiate for better pay or go into business on our own if we wish. It’s been easier this year for me to provide care out of state than my own community. Our salaries continue to decrease while our workload increases & it’s so bad I’ve considered leaving Texas altogether. I don’t support full practice to new grads but a model like Colorado granting FPA to experienced NP’s after meeting a number of hours of direct supervision of an MD or NP (our own profession) is very reasonable & removes any patient safety concerns. Please consider supporting this bill & NPs in Texas.

---

Sherry Provencher, Occupational Therapy Assistant

Self-Occupational Therapy Assistant

Grand Prairie, TX

I am writing you to Support Hb 2029. I work in a Rehab facility. If it weren't for the Nurse Practitioners here, this place would be a nightmare for the patients as most are Medicare/Medicaid and the few physicians that breeze in and out, do nothing but write med orders.

---

Cheryl Gaspard, CPM, LM

Self - Texas Licensed Midwife, Certified Professional Midwife

Arlington, TX

It's time to for Texas to join other states in giving advanced practice nurses the freedom to function in their full training and scope of practice. It's time to give Texans full rights to determine the healthcare provider for their family.

Maria Pinnock, APRN , FNP-BC  
University of Texas Medical Branch  
Galveston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Kimberly Petrie  
Self and Texas Nurse Practitioners Association  
Cleburne, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Ivy Reyes-McChesney, APRN  
Self  
Los Fresnos, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Sabrea Robinson  
self  
Euless, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. If the last two years has taught us anything it is that we need to be open to diverse ideas and assistance if it serves in the best interest of our communities. We have learned in the matter of a couple of months, mass amounts of citizens can be without basic necessities, yes even here in the United States. With the future so fluid a lack in available resources in healthcare should not be a burden we any longer risk to bear. We need to utilize APRN in their fullest and most trusted capabilities to offset the deficits in areas such as Women's Health and Primary Care. Physicians have done an excellent job at being adaptable and willing to extend themselves to meet the growing needs of our systems, however, the burden is growing increasingly weighty day by day. We must unify and create an environment where care is as accessible as food and water. The health of our country and the reputation of our nation is at stake. We must no longer look at the differences in title, but we must look at the dedication, perseverance, and the knowledge gained of APRNs to help fix the gaps and fallacies of our system. If we do not take the necessary action today, we will in fact pay an unnecessary price later to remedy our delay or failure in action. Plenty others and I are advocating for so many people who cannot and do not know how to ask for the help that is needed today.

Please take a moment and be mindful and prayerful of how we can grow stronger, healthier communities today instead of healing chronically broken ones tomorrow.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Thank you for your time in this matter.

---

Ricci Hans-Stephenson, APRN

Self

Rosharon, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

UGOCHI UGWUEGBULAM, Nurse Practitioner

Self nurse Practitioner

Missouri, TX

It has been long overdue especially with the current healthcare challenges in the face of this pandemic.

---

Julie Wills

Self FNP

College Station, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Melissa Bowery, RN-BSN

Self

Gorman, TX

APRN should have full practice authority to be able to fill critical need. There are limited providers in many areas of Texas.

---

Mabel Rose Francisco

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Dallas, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first,

the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. As a practicing APRN, Nurse Practitioner, we are unable to provide patients with the best care possible with these restrictions.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Robert Boyle  
Wellsourc Group  
Kingwood, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Jing Wang  
self  
San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Ilianna Kuntz  
self. Pediatric Nurse Practitioner Primary Care Board Certified, Member of the Houston Texas Chapter of the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners.  
Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions fo Texans live in health care shortage areas and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the VA and all branches of the military and the District fo Columbia already have. Pleas support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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KATHLEEN RICE  
myself /family nurse practitioner  
LONGVIEW, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Harriet Omondi



Self/ nurse practitioner

Houston, TX

Giving Nurse practitioners full practice authority will alleviate the issue of wait times to see a primary provider. Most Texans have to wait for months to see their PCP because of high demand. It will also decrease the unnecessary fees Nps have to pay in order to have a supervising physician.

---

Brandy Hart

Self/D'Alluremedspa Owner

Dallas, TX

Supporting HB 2029. As the owner of a MedSpa, I pay thousands of dollars a year for "physician oversight" of our 2 very experienced NP's, which serves very little patient value, but greatly affects our overhead. Please, PLEASE SET US FREE financially!

---

Karen White

Self

Georgetown, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Paulette Senegal, Nurse Practitioner

HANP

Spring, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Jacobie Landers, Dr.

Texas Nurse Practitioners

San Antonio, TX

As an NP with a phd I am often limited on the care I can provide by having to be "monitored" by a physician. I was unable to get my DEA license without having a collaborating physician although I've taken all the courses and have to pay for this. I had to find a physician to sponsor me. I have worked in states that have no restrictions and this allowed me to work autonomously in rural areas that were in dire need of healthcare providers. I was able to consult with a physician as needed, but ultimately my education and experience proved enough. If this pandemic has taught us anything. It has shown us that medical providers have to be diligent, resilient and flexible. I worked hard to obtain my degree and licensure only to be limited by needing a collaborating

physician. I ask that you consider the way that NPs stepped up and answered the call during these unprecedented times. Allow us to continue to care for out clients without restriction. Thank you

---

Patricia Hornsby

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Dallas, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Delilah Hampton, PMHNP-APRN

Houston Area Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner Association

Houston, TX

Good Morning,

I am a psychiatric nurse practitioner and have been working in psychiatry for 25 plus years. I love my job and love my patients. I am begging you to pass this bill as it will benefit the patients of Texas. Right now most of the psychiatric nurse practitioners living in Texas are becoming licensed in other states that do not require these out dated supervision rules. I myself who have worked in Texas since 2007 am seriously considering doing the same. This is hurting Texas because we are already short providers. There are multiple reasons we are doing this. One is obviously for money. Who would not prefer to keep all their money instead of giving half to someone else. The second and most important for me is job security. I recently had an experience where the doctor I worked for for almost 10 years had a mental health crisis and abruptly came into the office one day and fired all his 4 NPs and said he was closing his office. We scrambled to find other jobs and providers to take our patients. It has taken me two years to build my practice back up and every few weeks one of my old patients finds me and tells me the sad story of how they had been trying to find me and how other providers changed their meds and they decompensated and required hospitalization. These are the chronically ill patients with low reimbursement insurances. No one wants to provide services to them. This breaks my heart to hear these stories especially if I treated them for so long and kept them happy and stable. This scenario is discouraging and disheartening. I know at any moment the same thing could happen again. One doctor can supervise 7 NP's. What happens if that doctor becomes ill or no longer wants to practice. In one swipe 8 providers are gone and the thousands of patients they service are out of luck. This is ridiculous, they don't care about the patients they care about the money the NP's generate. We as NPs are also terrified the doctor will engage in fraud and if that happens we are in trouble too. They don't allow us to be involved in billing. If we ask too many questions we are fired. My daughter is about to start NP school, she is smart and will be trained by some of the best most experienced seasoned psych NP's in Houston and all that skill and talent will benefit a state that has no supervision rules. It's the smartest of our NP's that are deciding to practice in other states. There is a brain drain happening right now in Texas and once these talented people leave I don't expect they will come back. The law we have now benefits the doctors wallets and no one else. The doctor will do the typical will kicking and protesting and throw up red flags that we are a danger if not supervised which is all drama and for show to protect the mighty dollar. I know a lot of Psych NP's are waiting to see what happens with this bill and if it does not pass they are all planning on getting licensed in other states and working remotely.

Delilah Hampton

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Susie West

Self/Home Care

CONVERSE, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Monica Olague, Family Nurse Practitioner

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Corpus Christi, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Mary-Jane Warren

Clear Water Psychiatry and Wellness

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. We recognize that physicians have more education and specialized knowledge, and they would like to practice using the full scope of their training. But this precludes them from wanting to practice in low income, rural communities, and doing primary care to a large extent. We believe that the need is so great that we must step in to help in providing less intense care in underserved areas. There are plenty of patients to go around. Please look at the research and understand that we are not trying to invade the turf that physicians can rightly claim. We just want to be able to expand care and move Texas off the list of the worst states in providing access to care.

---

Courtney Sherman, Dr.

self

Keller, TX

I am strongly in support of HB 2029. As a Nurse Practitioner, I am licensed in 17 states, 15 of which allow me to practice independently. My practice does not change among the states, only the time and money wasted on physician "supervision" that occurs monthly via phone conversation. If patient safety were the root of the "supervision" requirement, then I would be required to work in the presence of a physician. As it stands now, I discuss issues that I have already solved a month after they occur just to maintain documentation of "supervision." Further, my license and national certification include treating adolescents. My collaborating physician states that his specialization includes only treating adults. Because of this, I cannot treat adolescents who desperately need access to care while my organization loses out on revenue and community support by having to refer adolescents elsewhere. The current "supervision" requirement is not based on concerns for patient safety or quality of care. It is plainly based on power and money without any concern for patient welfare. A lack of access to high quality healthcare provided by Advanced Practice Registered Nurses is a concern for patient welfare. Texas is facing a tremendous shortfall in primary care providers and has the ability rectify a large portion of the shortfall by removing archaic and arbitrary restrictions on the practice of an army of educated and trained providers. 31 other states along with the District of Columbia, the VA, and the DOD have all eliminated needless delegation requirements showing that Texas is lagging in healthcare leadership which is shameful and humiliating. I urge you to support HB 2029 and allow me to treat the patients I am educated and trained to treat. I urge you to

support HB 2029 to allow me as a patient to choose my own provider (who happens to be a Nurse Practitioner). I urge you to allow me to support the organization that pays my salary and supports my community by allowing me to practice to the full extent of my training and education. I urge you to support HB 2029 to free Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to serve the residents of Texas and improve the overall health of the State. I urge you to support HB 2029 to help draw highly skilled and qualified Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to Texas.

---

Lori Thompson  
self/ nurse practitioner  
Richardson, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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Monica Nolan-Salazar, APRN, FNP-C  
Houston Area Nurse Practitioners  
Richmond, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. Your vote will make a positive impact for Texas and the future of Texas Healthcare.

---

Lisa Anderson  
self - PMHNP  
San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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Allison Greer Francis, Mrs.  
The Center for Health Care Services  
San Antonio, TX

I am not in favor of HB 2029

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Robert Boyle, Jr  
Self  
Porter, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first,

the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

James Lockett, Dr.

Self, Nurse Practitioner

Ferris, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. I have been an RN since 1981 and Nurse Practitioner since 1998. Even at this time, the struggle to pay for physician delegation is a challenge. In this time of a pandemic, increasing the availability of health care providers could help to reduce the profound level of illness and death in many areas of Texas. The collaborative agreement offers very little real benefits to the daily provision of care to our patient populations. It serves only to limit practice of licensed professionals.

Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Jaunita Boyle

Self

Porter, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Catherine Restua, MSN, APRN, FNP-C

HANP

Pearland, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Lilah Luz Jimenez, FNP-C

TNP/FNP

Kingsville, TX

Please allow APRNS to work optimaaly and empowered to taking care and carrying out orders as part of the treatment plans without having to have a physician contract. This will empower the certified and licensed nurse practitioners. More so, this will narrow the gaps and /or fill the gaps in providing healthcare services to the general population without being fragmented or duplicated. Thank you very much.

Marius Fegaing

Self

MIDLOTHIAN, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help fill the gap to a certain level. Consequently, the state can help achieve this goal by removing the delegation mandate, as 31 other States, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

By supporting HB 2029, you will helping texans having more accessibility to healthcare all across the State.  
Thank you in advance

---

Valerie Smith, Dr.

Texas Pediatric Society, Texas Medical Association

TYLER, TX

As a community-based pediatrician in Tyler I regularly work with nurse practitioners (NP) as well as precept NP students. NPs can be a critical addition to a physician-led team, but their education is vastly different in physicians in both the length of time and depth of detail making independent practice potentially dangerous for Texas patients. In our collaborative office having the NP see focused sick visits or uncomplicated well child exams allows physicians to focus on our more complex patients. Our NP routinely touches base throughout the day if she has a question regarding patient management or arranges follow-up with the physician. This team-based approach provides excellent care in a cost efficient manner, but without the physician oversight and involvement, rare diagnosis and subtle presentations would be missed. Texans deserve a strong healthcare system that incorporates medical professionals into appropriate roles. Removing physician oversight and allowing independent practice removes critical safeguards for the care of Texans. I strongly encourage the House Public Health Committee to not advance HB 2029 and support the health and safety of Texans by continuing physician-led, team-based care.

---

Chelsey Jones-Gallegos

Self, Registered Nurse, Family Nurse Practitioner student

Pflugerville, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help fill the gap. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Cynthia Smalling

Fort Worth Region Nurse Practitioners

Grand Prairie, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

In multiple studies APRNs have been shown to provide safe and effective care equal or better to that of other providers.

I am asking that you support HB 2029 and enhance the opportunity for competent health care for all Texans.

---

Kimberly Clipp, DNP, APRN, NNP-BC

Self Advance practice provider

Forney, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Texans have the right to healthcare in all areas of the state. APRNs can be that resource. There are 31 other states that have removed the restrictive mandate for physician delegation. The VA, all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support Texas state wide access to healthcare and support HB 2029. Thank you.

---

Michelle Fowler, APRN, FNP-C

Self, nurse practitioner

Amarillo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Xiaomei Zhou, Nurse practitioner

Self nurse practitioner

Plano, TX

Nurse practitioner is fully competent to practice without necessary restrictions of physicians supervision. Please help Texan!

---

Robert Simon

self

KINGWOOD, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

I also sent this to your email ... might be easier that way

---

Ralph Grinnell, Mr.

Self

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Nurse Practitioners have been delivering safe competent quality care for more than fifty years. Texas should be a leader in medical care for Texans but is currently one of the most restrictive states for APRNs to practice in. It's not about patient safety, or quality of care being provided anymore, it's about the money that physicians are making forcing APRNs to be restricted in their practice which is limiting Texans access to medical care. Please give APRNs the opportunity to practice to the the limits of their

scope of practice and many other states have. Thank you for your time.

---

Ryan Odders

Self

Richmond, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Heidi Mansy, DNP

Self, Nurse Practitioner with a doctorate degree

Iowa Colony, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Morgan Click, Ms.

Self - FNP student

Dallas, TX

Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A., all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients.

---

michelle Nguyen

Self

Sugar Land, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Rongna Sun

Self, APRN

McKinney, TX



I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Janet Cho

Self. RN

Lewisville, TX

I support HB 2029

---

Vivian Valdes

Self

Baytown, TX

I am an APRN and vote to practice as a licensed independent practitioner as authorized by the BON.

---

Lesley Cain

self

Porter, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Kristina Salcedo, NP

Self

Arlington, TX

Please pass bill.

---

Jacquilyn Aniscol, BSN RN CCRN

self

Arlington, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Maude Escalante, Family Nurse Practitioner

Self

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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Rachel Cano, FNP-C

Self - Family Nurse Practitioner

League City, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Angela Stith, Family Nurse Practitioner

The Coastal Bend Advanced Practice Nurses

Corpus Christi, TX

Hello, I am a nurse practitioner who has brought affordable COVID-19 testing to Corpus Christi, TX including FREE COVID-19 testing for the uninsured. The only physician I could find to collaborate with recently had his license suspended for addiction issues and at one point had sexually assaulted me. After that happened I thought I would have to choose between leaving the practice because I would no longer have a collaborative agreement, or to continue practicing and put up with the horrible behavior of my physician collaborator. So I talked to my husband who is an ER physician and he said he would help. That day he signed on to be my collaborative physician. Even though he works ER and I am family practice, as well as the collaborative agreement potentially being a conflict of interest due to us being married, we did not want to let those things get in the way. Since then I have tested over 120 patients for COVID-19 and helped several patients avoid hospitalization by getting them into lifesaving monoclonal antibody treatment at the Hector P Garcia Center! The number of lives I could have helped I believe could have been so much higher but I had to wait a year to practice because of the collaborative physician requirements and due to wanting to find an independent physician other than my husband. But doors were always closing...physicians were always saying no. This law is a tremendous barrier to Nurse Practitioners everywhere who want to save lives and help Texans in need as physicians are either not up for the job or frequently want something in return that is way too costly. In choosing to pass HB 2029, you are helping so many Texans achieve better access to care! (It took 3 months to get into an appointment with one of my primary physicians) You are also allowing Texans to gain more affordable options! For example, during this COVID-19 pandemic uninsured patients can't afford to pay \$150-\$250 for a COVID-19 test like they were charging at many stand alone emergency rooms, when those same emergency rooms refused to participate in the COVID -19 uninsured program and instead billed uninsured Texans hundreds of dollars for testing. In January, one of my patients with Medicaid called me crying at Christus Promptu ER because they wanted to charge her \$200 for a COVID-19 test. So I started my own business providing free testing for the uninsured and affordable testing for the insured. I'm so proud I was able to help stop the spread and save lives! I wish many other nurse practitioners could have done the same but they did not have a collaborative physician and are still home waiting to work. Please pass HB 2029!!! Thank you!!!!

---

Lisa Myers, APRN

self-psychiatric nurse practitioner

BELLAIRE, TX

I am a psychiatric mental health nurse practitioner with an interest in perinatal mood and anxiety disorders (PMAD). I have taken additional courses for certifications in this field and have 20 years experience in women's health. I am passionate about being available to these patients to prevent the devastating effects that untreated PMADs can have on families. There is a shortage of providers in Houston thus causing a an unnecessary and often consequential delay in care. Finding an affordable collaborator is my only barrier to providing access to care of women and families that have so much to lose if maternal mental illness goes untreated. I am well trained, confident in my ability to stay within my scope and have tremendous respect for my medical colleagues depth of training and education and rely on them when needed.

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Joan Maxfield, MSN FNP APRN

Self

Coupland, TX

I support this bill. It is so necessary for rural nurse practitioners.

---

Christy Hernandez, FNP

All Nurse practitioners

Canyon, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Omolade Ogungbade

Self

Katy, TX

Nurse practitioners have been adequately prepared to be independent health care providers and can help reduce disparities in access to healthcare for many in the state of Texas if given authority to practice independent of physician supervision.

---

Sydney Theriot

self

Splendora, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of

Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Jana Thompson, MSN, RN-BC

Self

Azle, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Elizabeth Collins, FNP

Myself

Tyler, TX

By allowing advanced practice nurses to practice at the full extent of our training and license would provide care to underserved in many communities. The supervision is restricting to many of us and costly causing the cost of care for those underserved to increase. Allow us to use our license and training to the fullest capacity

---

Amanda Dittman, LVN

Affinity Family Care Clinic, Owner, LVN

Cibolo, TX

We have been following this bill as it pertains to the success of our Nurse Practitioner led family clinic for the past 4 years. Our patients and community would like to see this bill passed so that costs may be cut for the patients making for more affordable healthcare. Thank you!

---

Ashel Carter, Texas Christian University Doctor of Nursing Practice Candidate

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Mansfield, TX

Support HB 2029 for More Access, More Options for Texas Patients

We are still amid this COVID-19 pandemic along with various types of injustices. Why are we doing this? Why are we supporting this? I need my most undeserved and vulnerable patients which include the elderly, Veterans, and rural residents to have access to quality healthcare. It is truly unnecessary for these mandates requiring APRNs to have a costly contract with a physician to care for patients, especially when most newer physician providers are not entering into family practice enough to meet the demands of patients who need primary providers the most. How are we solving this problem? What are we afraid of? Do you need more information on what APRNs do, especially family nurse practitioners? Why allow this blatant disparity amongst healthcare providers to continue in our great state of Texas? When did we stop being frontrunners? When did we start allowing others to lead our state and set the standard when we have been given multiple opportunities? How about we simply

work together to improve access to safer higher-quality care and improve outcomes for ALL TEXANS, ALL AMERICANS! We need you to support this bill!

In 2013, the Texas Legislature removed the requirement that advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs) have on-site supervision by a physician. Yet, years later, the state continues to require APRNs to have unnecessary, often costly contracts with physicians before they can provide care to Texas patients. This is a major issue for millions of Texans living in rural and other primary care shortage areas.

Current law does not require APRNs and physicians to work together or to consult on any cases, mandating nothing more than a single phone call once a month.

These mandated contracts provide no additional benefit to patient care, since contracted physicians are not required to provide care to an APRN's patients or even be in the same city. However, these contracts can be both expensive and difficult to obtain, effectively preventing some APRNs from serving patients where and when they are needed most.

California and Florida, two of Texas' biggest competitors for talent and business, are among 31 states who have done away with this requirement. Advanced practice nursing is the only profession in Texas where independently licensed professionals are mandated to contract with a member of another profession to go into business.?

Removing APRN delegation barriers in Texas will:

- Increase access to care for patients, including the over 3 million Texans living in rural areas, 7 million Texans in primary care shortage areas, and the 15 million Texans in mental health care provider shortage areas
  - Save millions of dollars in health care costs for the state's Medicaid program and the health care system
  - Create a better business environment in Texas, with more competition and choice for consumers
- 

Michael Gurecki

Self

Sugar Land, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Texas is behind the curve nationally which is frankly disgraceful in a state that boasts such world renowned healthcare centers as Houston's.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Telecia Allen

self

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Sheryl Thomas, DNP, Family Nurse Practitioner

HANP and self

Brookshire, TX

It's simple. Nurse Practitioners do not need a contract with a physician to provide patient care. Nurse practitioners have their own license.

---

Patience Cain

TNP

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Patience Taylor Cain, APRN, FNP-BC

---

Bertha Lorena Martinez, FNP-BC

Self, Family Nurse Practitioner

El Paso, TX

I support representative Klick to remove APRN restrictions in Texas and allow advanced practice registered nurses to independently evaluate patients, prescribe medications, and remove regulations requiring APRN to contract with physicians prior to servicing patients.

---

Danielle Maskell, RN - PMHNP student

self

Haslet, TX

Dear Representatives for the people of Texas,

I am writing to you in support of HB 2029. Texas lags behind the nation in so many areas of health. One of the main reasons for this is a lack of access to providers. This includes rural health areas, and within the urban areas as well. This shortage of providers is based solely on the state's decision to continue with its antiquated regulations restricting the practice of nurse practitioners. Thirty - one other states have made changes that have given NP greater access to provide care for their at need population. Nurses are a profession of helpers. We become nurses to make a difference in people's lives, not to make a profit. All the NP students I know have made the decision to become NPs to make a difference in the at-risk and high need, uninsured, under-represented populations that are currently neglected by this state. I am both a mother of an addict and a student going to school to help fight addiction in this state. I have seen first-hand how difficult it is for someone without insurance to get the care that they need for their mental health. Texas spends a tremendous amount of money on disability caused by not addressing the people's health care needs. If other states can make the change Texas needs to lead the way and make that change as well. If not, they will continue to lose providers to other states who are willing to make a difference for the people of their state. They will also lose countless nurses who are wanting to go to school to make a difference, but who are unable to because of the lack of preceptors to teach them. Make a difference in the lives of the people you represent. Be proactive instead of wasting money reactively paying for the neglect of the people's health care. You pay for it thru the prisons, foster care, and disability systems. Add those up and see how far behind you are each year from not addressing health care, including mental health care of the people of Texas.

---

Cathrine Odum

Self

Frisco, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Elena Loomis, Nurse Practitioner

Choice Health Palliative Care

Amarillo, TX

am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Kayla Farmer, NP-C

Self, NP

Fairfield, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A., all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support removing outdated and unnecessary mandates on APRNs which will enable them to provide more access to high-quality care to Texans. Please support HB 2029.

---

Megan Hoang

Self

Round Rock, TX

I am writing in support of SB 2029. I'm many other states NPs can practice without the agreement between them and a physician. NPs can help increase Texas residents access to healthcare.

---

Ekene Asike

Self

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Michael Lukenovich, Mr

Self

spring, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Nicole Lopez

Self

Kempner, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Research supports the safety and efficacy of patient outcomes for those seen by APRN's. It is time for us to do our part in caring for our constituents.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Donna Rich, Dr

Self/Nurse Educators/Nurse Practitioner

Andrews, TX

Please support this bill

---

Donnellyn Dominguez

Self

Denton, TX

As a consumer and practitioner, who supports access to the Midwifery Model of Care, I support HB 2029, to remove barriers to care from Certified Nurse Midwives.

---

Lawrence West

Self

Denton, TX

I am in support of House Bill 2029 and the increase in medical services it would bring to the citizens of the great state of Texas.

---

Kasheka Singleton

Self



Arlington, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Robin Davis, APRN

Acclaim physician group

Weatherford, TX

I support this bill

---

Lacy Newkirk

Self

Wylie, TX

I fully support this bill to remove unnecessary restrictions from nurse midwives.

---

Veronica Holt

Self, registered nurse

Austin, TX

I support it

---

Sherry Grogan, APRN, PMHNP-BC

Self - Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Missouri City, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. I have dedicated my life and career to providing excellent mental health care to my community. It is extremely difficult for people to get access to mental health care, and it's direly needed for many reasons, including the fallout from COVID and quarantining. I have carved out a practice that I am proud of, but realize that it is all very tenuous should something happen to the physician who delegates that right to prescribe medications to me. My private practice could have to shutter at any moment in time, leaving hundreds of people without their medications. It keeps me awake at night, and seems very unnecessary as I have spent many years training and working.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Jacob Brown

self-Retail

Plano, TX

Support of 2029, yes please! I lost my job due to COVID and was severely depressed. I've been seeing a Psychiatry Nurse Practitioner, who put me on meds, and helped me cope thru reading books on the topic and practicing skills. Unbelievable improvement! I tried to get into see a Dr. Psychiatrist, but the first available appointment was in 7 weeks and \$400!

---

Katherine Whiddon

Self

Sanger, TX

I and my family are in full support of HB 2029. Please vote YES. It's so important for more families to have better access to healthcare at a lower cost.

---

Leisa King, Mrs.

Self, RN-BSN

Lone Oak, TX

I support increased authority and autonomy for APRN's as they have sufficient experience, training, and oversight to provide exceptional, safe, ethical, and professional care of the patients needing their services. These changes would help to meet the healthcare shortages and increase access to affordable, quality healthcare for our growing population. Nursing education, training, and oversight have come a long way over the past century. Every NP who I have visited has provided more exceptional and personalized care than many of the MD's who have seen me. Thank you!

---

Hannah Rebong, Family nurse practitioner

Self

Sugarland, TX

I support HB2029. Millions of Texans live in healthcare shortage areas and APRNs can help. The state needs to remove the delegate mandate just like the other 31 states.

---

Virginia Salao, NP

HANP

Richmond, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. I am part of those that are lobbying to remove barriers to full practice.

---

TOM OMONDI, Esq.

Self

Sugar Land, TX

Advanced Practice Registered Nurses have played a vital role in the care of Texas residents for years now and their education and training provides them the ability to do independently. Many states are already doing so and Texas Nursing programs are some of the most rigorous in the state. The time has come to allow our Texas APRNs to practice independently and increase access to care

to our Texas residents.

---

Michelle Summerall, WHNP

JPS

Fort worth, TX

I support HB 2029, thank you.

---

Rosna Mishra

Urgent Care /Family Practice

Houston, TX

It's time for NPs to lead

---

Luna Love

Texas Wesleyan University - - Ft.Worth, TX

Haltom City, TX

I am supporting HB 2029. APRNs can help this millions of Texans who lives in health care shortage areas. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Kathleen Doughtie, DNP

self MD Anderson Cancer Center

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Cynthia Amachree, FNP-C

Self- Nurse Practitioner

Katy, TX

Nurse Practitioners are adequately trained in their area of specialty to independently take care of patients without supervision. Nursing has for ages been the cornerstone of health care. Our clinical experience plus multiple hours of training both didactically and clinically empower us to be independent practice providers. I feel it is time that we are given the opportunity to practice fully in the capacity that is still within the scope of practice. We will help close the gap lacking with the reduced number of provider to patients ratio while ensuring positive patient outcomes for the present and future. Our unique blend of science, compassion, psychosocial, physical and medical training will ensure that patients are involved as equal participants in the outcome of their care. We are ready now.

---

Mary Werlinger

TNP

Clifton, TX

I am in support of removing barriers to advanced practice nursing . To be able to practice, after graduation, one has to register with the BON, find a collaborating physician who then opens a portal to registration of that collaborative agreement with the Tx Medical Board (TMB should not be invoked with nurse licensing /credentialing. ) Then, we have to draft a collaborative agreement that is renewed annually . Some advanced practice nursery pay hefty sums of money to physicians to be their collaborative physician - these barriers need to be removed !

---

Angela Okotie-Eboh, Dr

NP Care Services Group

Cypress, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Krysta Thompson, FNP-C

Texas nurse practitioners

West Columbia, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

William Johnson

Self/ Family Nurse Practitioner

Cypress, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

ERIN Lillian, FNP-C

Texas Nurse Practitioners/Brazosport Area Nurse Practitioners/self-FNP-C

Lake Jackson, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of

Columbia already have.

This directly affects me as I own my family practice. I am currently limited in providing appropriate and necessary care to my patients. I need to be able to prescribe necessities such as diabetic supplies and incontinent supplies. I need to be able to provide this care at the time of the visit and the time of need for each patient. Supervising physicians, although helpful, limit this function, as there are none in my physical location. I have to set a time to physically meet them in person in order to obtain their signatures.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Katherine Stakes  
Wellspring Group  
Kingwood, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Peace Uwaeme, DNP, Family Nurse Practitioner  
North Texas Nurse Practitioners  
Garland, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Velma Henn, PMHNP  
self  
Harlingen, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Susan Mikeska  
Self. FNP-C

Heath, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Shannon Crenshaw

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Helotes, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.?

?

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Brittany Hafer

Self, FNP

Waxahachie, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Many Texans live in health care shortage areas, and myself and other Advanced Practice Registered Nurses can help solve this problem. To do so, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A., all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more health care access and options for the Texas population by supporting HB 2029.

---

Gretchen Carstens

Self-Flight Attendant

Grapevine, TX

Support!!! LOVE MY NP!

---

Steven Sherman, MSG, USA(RET)

Self

Keller, TX

Independent practice for advanced practice registered nurses in Texas would greatly benefit the states healthcare. This model has been proven by the Department Of Veterans Affairs and the US Military. Texas needs to get its people the same quality of care that is offered to the Military.

---

Lanin Buford, MSN APRN PPCNP-BC

SELF- Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

Pearland, TX

It's imperative that the stronghold of medicine be lifted from the necks of advanced practice nurses/nurse practitioners. We should be allowed to practice without restriction in the State of Texas and follow suit like other states. Our foundation is built on positive outcomes with quality improvements and impact on healthcare systems! It's time to MAKE A CHANGE!

---

Dominique Morson, Ms.

Self Corporate Immigration Attorney

Manvel, TX

Advanced practice registered nurses have increased access to care for Texas Residents for years. Their education and training prepares them for independent practice. Our Texas residents deserve quality healthcare and allowing our APRNs to practice independently will do just that.

---

Evelyn Simmons, Ms

Self as CNM

Willis, TX

Passing this bill will increase access to women for important health care services

---

Ama Acheampong, Ms

Self/ Advanced practice nurse

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Shelly Covington

Self-Sales Rep

Garland, TX

I am writing to Support House Bill 2029, for Nurse Practitioners.

---

Quinten Robertson

R & D Care Clinic

Humble, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Quinten Robertson, DNP, FNP-BC

---

Alyssa Aleman  
Self- Attorney  
Alamo, TX

Advanced practice registered nurses have increased access to care for Texas Residents for years. Their education and training prepares them for independent practice. Our Texas residents deserve quality healthcare and allowing our APRNs to practice independently will do just that.

---

LaDawn Fletcher  
Self  
Missouri City, TX

Please allow advanced practitioner nurses to work on their own authority within the full scope of their extensive education.

---

Angela Hale  
Self-Business Owner  
Frisco, TX

Regarding HB 2029....Please Support!

---

Sarah Hubbs, AGACNP  
Self, nurse practitioner  
Prosper, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Caitlyn Bilton  
Self - Doula  
Grand Prairie, TX

Restrictions on nurse midwives and nurse practitioners need to be removed.

---

Hye Joung Yun, RN, FNP student



self

Round Rock, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Stephanie Kemmerling

self- nurse practitioner

Friendswood, TX

As a nurse practitioner of 11 years that cares for patients at a major academic healthcare institution, I support H.B. 2029 to remove outdated legislation that places unnecessary and costly burdens on nurse practitioners and reduces their ability to provide high-quality, cost-effective care for Texans. Placing the practice of nurse practitioners under the Texas Board of Nursing would allow nurse practitioners to spend more time taking care of patients instead of spending time on paperwork. Health care is a team sport, and as a team we can care for more patients by allowing nurse practitioners to practice to the full extent of their license and training. Health outcomes for citizens in other states that have less strict regulatory requirements for nurse practitioners are better than the health outcomes for Texans. By allowing nurse practitioners to practice without having to pay for a physician to delegate prescriptive authority, we can increase access to care for the most vulnerable, underserved populations. Care provided by nurse practitioners has been continuously evaluated as being safe and effective with health outcomes for patients equivalent to those of physicians. Please don't become distracted by anecdotal stories meant to scare the public. There are stories of bad outcomes for patients for care provided by physicians, nurse practitioners and every other health profession. The current restrictions don't provide any meaningful oversight. They merely create an added regulatory and financial burden for nurse practitioners and institutions.

---

Kosi Ngozi-Ibeh

Self, Nurse

Heartland, TX

I support this bill and believe that APRNs should be able to provide care for patients without being under contract with a physician.

---

Janie Foster

Self-Business Administration

Leonard, TX

I would like to offer positive support for HB2029.

---

Elizabeth Washington, RN, FNP Student

Self - RN, FNP Student

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first,

the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Patience Nehikhuere

SELF/FNP

Richmond, TX

am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Dennis Byargeon, Nurse practitioner

Self

Fulshear, TX

I am commenting in support of HB 2029. A majority of states have passed this type of legislation already. They recognize the value of advanced practice nurses in caring for our ever increasing population. We limit access to health care by keeping Advanced practice nurses on the sidelines. There are no clear reasons for not using this amazing and increasing work force.

---

Joy Akhigbe, NP

AANP

Houston, TX

writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Augustine Enehikhuere

SELF / FNP

Richmond, TX

am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Latricia Williams, RN

Self

Cypress, TX

Advanced practice registered nurses have increased access to care for Texas Residents for years. Their education and training prepares them for independent practice. Our Texas residents deserve quality healthcare and allowing our APRNs to practice independently will do just that.

---

Mary Dinh

Nurse practitioners

Pflugerville, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Shannon Skolaut

Self RN

Austin, TX

?

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Mandy Mendez, APRN

Self

Fort Worth, TX

I am writing in support of HB 2029. APRNs have the training, knowledge, skills and ability backed by research to provide healthcare to millions of underserved patients. The first step is removing the state mandated delegation. We are one of the last states hanging on to outdated regulations. 31 other states including the VA and the military and DC have removed this unnecessary limitation.

---

Stephanie Fraser, Family Nurse Practitioner

Self

San Antonio, TX

Advanced practice nurses have proven that they are self-sufficient and able to make clinical decisions without the authorization of a physician. Family nurse practitioners work hand-in-hand with physicians in a collaborative fashion every day. Removing the collaborative agreement and allowing nurse practitioners the independence to practice without the permission of a MD will only enhance the profession. I think nurse practitioners and advanced practice nurses have proven that they are capable of managing patients using evidence-based medicine and are just as safe as physicians. It is time to allow Advanced Practice Nurses full practice authority.

---

Linda Potthoff

Self-Retired

Lakeway, TX

Supporting HB 2029. I have received my health care from a Nurse Practitioner for over 20 years. These laws need to be modernized to be similar to other states. Why do we always have to be at the bottom of the barrel in all health related matters? It's embarrassing and not good for the citizens.

---

Linda Govea, RN

Linda Govea-self

Benbrook, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Sara Koenig-Langston, Mrs.

Self - PMHNP

Cibolo, TX

Thank you for hearing us today. I am a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner. I am honored and blessed to serve almost 700 Texans who rely on Medicare and Medicaid. I treat them for psychiatric care monthly and reduce the rates at which they use inpatient hospitalization. I work with case managers through an Assertive Community Treatment team to maximize the care these vulnerable Texans need. Together, my patients and I have faced many barriers to their care. The biggest hurdle is the cost-restrictive practice of having to pay a physician to check my charts monthly. 31 states have removed this barrier to care, and Texans deserve the same! Better access to health care in Texas means healthier Texans who are able to work and contribute to our wonderful State. Please help us serve more Texans with quality health care by removing barriers to their care. Thank you for your time, attention, and service to Texas.

---

Rosa Vallejo-Loza

Blue Cross of Texas (TX)

Weslaco, TX

Nurse practitioners have demonstrated competence, improved patient care experiences, improved outcomes, and the value of preventive care. It is time to increase access to quality care for all Texans.

---

Adam Tran

Self, chiropractor

Pflugerville, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Christina Stolte

self, registered nurse and nurse practitioner student

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

David Rogers

Self

Allen, TX

If y'all can before 1pm, tell your constituents to support NP independence from dumb physician supervision. Search in it: HB 2029

You can just copy and paste this example message to them

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Elizabeth Perchard

Self, I am writing as a healthcare consumer and school nurse in a rural school district

Saginaw, TX

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. As an RN that works as a school nurse in a rural area, I watch the struggle that our families have accessing healthcare. Even when they are able to make appointments, they often cannot afford to visit the doctor. This leaves many families going to the ER for issues that could, and should be managed with a primary care provider. Patients often lack an ongoing relationship with a primary care provider, which means many families are not receiving the routine health screenings and well visits that they need. An ongoing relationship with a primary care provider is crucial to maintaining the health of Texans! APRNs are highly skilled and capable providers that are trained to practice independently. The physician agreement that is currently required does not provide safety or protection to patients, it limits Texans access and choice of providers! Please support HB 2029!

---

Robby Korah

Self fnp

Richmond, TX

I and many other advanced practice providers are educated and skillful in the management of patients. Our supervising physicians trust us more than most of their physician colleagues.

---

Amanda Jimenez, RN, MSN, AG-ACNP

Self

Bedford, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. I respect and work closely with members of the Texas Medical Board community and acknowledge their concerns. Should they review the model set forth by those aforementioned states and agencies they will see that there are parameters to meeting full practice authority which Texas absolutely should evaluate to adopt. Of course getting a degree is enough to be a competent member of the healthcare team And what would qualify as such should be determined jointly with the TXBON and TMB.

---

Brittani Langlinais, FNP

Next level Urgent Care

Houston, TX

Increase our access and remove delegation mandates Please!

---

TC Schiller

Self, software engineer

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A., all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.?

?

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

London Harris, Ms.

Self, LCDC

Little river academy, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Do not work in health care but have been treated by many amazing, knowledgeable, thorough advanced practice nurse practitioners. I was not fully aware of how much having a supervising doctor can hinder access to care. I live in a rural area already and finding doctors can be hard so I'm very thankful for my NP. I'm not sure what I would do if mine wasn't able to pay the supervision fee or if the doctor decided she could no longer treat me for whatever reason. I've seen negative comments on the news and social media at times and it seems there's a push to hold NPs down for some reason. The comments I've heard are unrelatable as my experiences with Nps have always been at least as good as with doctors, and on many occasions better! I had no idea that 31 other states don't even require a supervising doctor for their advanced practice nurses. Why is Texas waiting when millions need better access to care? I SUPPORT HB2029! Thank you for your time.

---

Olaide Akinyinka, NP

HANP

Katy, TX

I support this bill

---

Brandon Ludwig

University of Texas at Austin School of Nursing

Austin, TX

Remove the mandates requiring APRNs to have a contract with a physician in order to care for patients.

---

Kimberly Engelman

self: nurse

San Antonio, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Salimah Basaria, AGACNP

HANP

Sugarland, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Erika Schiller, Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Self, psychiatric nurse practitioner

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. I personally work at a federally qualified health center in Austin that serves some of Austin/ Travis County's most vulnerable residents to provided lifesaving mental health services to people regardless of ability to afford care. However, our abilities to help Texans is currently limited by outdated over regulation of the licensing and authority of APRNs in Texas.

APRNs can provide quality, effective, timely, and affordable care to millions to Texans who otherwise may have no access to a healthcare provider, or have to wait months to get it. In 31 states, the VA, the DoD, and in Washington DC APRNs are able to care for patients without a delegation mandate in place. The delegation agreement in TX simply requires an APRN to meet with their delegating physician monthly, have the physician available for consultation and review a subset of charts of the APRN's care. This mandate continues indefinitely regardless of the APRNs experience. The patients under the APRN are of the APRN alone and generally will never see the delegating physician. APRNs, like physicians work in a team based healthcare setting and should any patient's case not be appropriate for their experience level or scope, they will consult with other professionals and refer appropriately. Where I work, I safely provide care to patients with minimal supervision, but know what I don't know, and consult with others when needed to ensure safe and effective care. As a safety net healthcare provider, I and other APRNs help provide a link to healthcare to many who otherwise will have no access to it.

Texas has the ability to improve access to quality care for its citizens. However, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.?

?

---

Heather Smith, FNP-BC  
Self - Family Nurse Practitioner  
Harlingen, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

With over 8 years of being Nurse Practitioner in the Rio Grande Valley, I assure you there are well qualified medical professionals that could fill the gap of physician shortage. Not all Nurse Practitioners will seek independence. I work in a specialty setting. The collaboration with physicians will always be needed. However, with years of experience in providing high quality, cost effective care, Nurse Practitioners should be allowed to treat patients without paying thousands of dollars to a physician that may never step into the building.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

David Condado, ACNP-BC  
Self  
Pasadena, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Thx  
David Condado ACNP-BC

---

Jonna Nicols  
self-Medical Assistant  
Wylie, TX

I'm in SUPPORT of HB 2029. I've worked for 2 awesome Nurse Practitioners for several years. Before that, I had worked in multi-provider, mostly physician practices, so I am experienced in how medical offices are run and patients are seen. The care here is superior as the NP's take their time and actually address the lifestyle issues that are causing the patient health problems. My previous experiences consisted of the providers ordering lots of tests and Rx's!

---

Martha Oreilly  
Myself  
Clifton, TX

Please vote NO to HB 2029. Nurse practitioner education is short and not standardized. NP Students go on social media to beg for preceptors. Some NP programs like Walden are under investigation for fraud. Full Practice Authority is a cynical grab for the money, power and prestige of practicing medicine while skipping medical school, residency and fellowship. Practicing Medicine and "Full Practice Authority" are one and the same as BOTH involve examining and taking patient history, ordering imaging and labs, diagnosing and treatment. The practice of medicine is complicated and requires extensive medical training. There are many more reasons to vote no on HB 2029 but I will stop here.



Roy Franklin, Nurse practitioner

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Woodway, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

The delegation mandate cost me thousands of dollars per year running my clinic. These dollars could be used to add additional staff to the clinic and reach more patients and decreased cost for patients Without sacrificing care.

---

Georgina Sanchez, Mrs

Texas Nurse Practitioners / Family Nurse Practitioner

Mission, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

James Williams

self

Houston, TX

Advanced practice registered nurses have increased access to care for Texas Residents for years. Their education and training prepares them for independent practice. Our Texas residents deserve quality healthcare and allowing our APRNs to practice independently will do just that.

---

Sylvia Garnica-Soto, Dr.

Self

San Antonio, TX

I am asking house representatives to vote YES on HB 2029 to allow APRNs to practice independently in Texas. As a Certified Nurse Midwife, I have the knowledge and ability to care for women and their families without oversight. My experience and education have prepared me to practice within the scope of my practice and be able to work collaboratively with a team of professionals that includes working along side physicians when needed. Research continues to support that midwives within the community improves healthcare access and the overall health of the community. Midwives and APRN's provide safe and high quality healthcare to clients and their families.

---

Lea Blottin, Nurse Practitioner

Self

Cedar Park, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

In addition, Nurse Practitioners have proven their worth over the last several years and help fill the gap where physicians are falling short. Removing this deterrent to entry would facilitate more care reaching the rural areas of Texas where healthcare is so hard to find.

---

Stacy Dominy

Self- RN, BSN

KIRBYVILLE, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Debra Scott

Representing parents of advanced practice nurse practitioners

Temple, TX

I'm writing in support of HB 2029. My daughter is a psychiatric NP and I know she is tremendous need. She has been delayed at points in treating this needy population for many months due to difficulty finding a supervising physician. Further, she has to pay \$1000 per month for this! If she wasn't able to afford this she wouldn't even be able to work. She has explained feeling uncertain of her supervising doctors dedication to supervising her which has left her anxious wondering if she may lose her supervision and leave her psychiatric patients without a provider. I know personally it can take many months to establish care, especially in psychiatry. I've seen that there are many other states that have gotten rid of this stipulation or never had it and I don't understand why Texas is behind on this, especially with so many rural areas that are in need of practitioners. I am in support of HB 2029! Please help your Texans gain access to care!

---

Gilbert Acosta

Texas Wesleyan university

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Candice Shipp

Self

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Lenee Gordon, APRN, DNP, FNP-C, ENP-C

Self

Houston, TX

Providing rural care is difficult with current guidelines. As well, in many settings we are providing the same care as physicians with less reimbursement (ie urgent care and ambulatory care services)

---

Kaishan Xian, NP

Self

Plano, TX

I am APRN and support HB2029 to provide full practice authority to nurse practitioners.

---

Vincent Rebugio

Self

Edinburg, TX

Please support HB 2029 to create more access to health care. Thank you!

---

Lois Sanders, APRN

Self. Nurse Practitioner

Mount Pleasant, TX

Please support HB 2029 which removes outdated barriers to practice for APRNs and increases access to health care for Texans

---

Cynthia Lewis, RN

self

Austin, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Patti Hardesty, Ms.

Psychiatric Advanced Practice Nurses Houston

Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Beverly Edigin, FNP-C

Self -nurse practitioner

Katy, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Bev Pennington, Nurse Practitioner

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Montgomery, TX

Passing this bill is paramount for ensuring patients get proper care by certified nurse practitioners. Nurse practitioners are highly educated and knowledgeable in care of patients. The requirements by the Board of Nursing and national credential agencies ensure that the practitioner continues in education efforts. Having a supervising physician does not enhance the effectiveness of the practitioner but rather hinders time needed to give to patient care. I strongly support the passage of this bill. Thank you.

---

christopher jones, APRN,ENP

self

Tomball, TX

I am a Texas Veteran, Conservative, Nurse Practitioner in the state of Texas since 2001. Physician delegation is an outdated and useless regulatory burden that has no measurable effect on my practice.

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Christi Wargo

Self

Friendswood, TX

I am a pediatric nurse practitioner in Friendswood, Texas and fully support HB 2029 in order to remove unnecessary barriers to quality access to care for Texans. Nurse Practitioners can help care for more Texas Residents with the approval of HB 2029. Thank you.

---

Mayra Valdez, Ms

Self

Houston, TX

This is a great way for us to help physicians and allow more access to more patients. More providers will be available to help our aging population!

---

Patrick Rombs

Self, NP

Missouri City, TX

Vote for independent practice of NPs

---

Amanda Graff, FNP-C

Amanda Graff MSN, APRN, FNP-C

Montgomery, TX

With the growing changes and size within Texas, I'm in strong support of APRN providers having more authority. Together we can make healthcare more readily available and affordable to citizens of Texas.

---

Kyonna Charleston

Self

Houston, TX

Nurse practitioners should be able to practice to their full ability as provided for by their education.

---

Kathy Gensler

IHP Weightloss & Wellness

Farmersville, TX

Please support HB 2029. I am a Nurse Practitioner Business owner, who specializes in weight loss and wellness. Most of my patients are obese and have numerous co-morbid conditions such as hypertension, diabetes, PCOS, orthopedic problems, etc. Most of my referrals come from physician offices as NO ONE wants to or has the time to put in the work required to make these patients healthy. For years, I paid several hundred, then over a thousand a month for a quarterly "meeting" (lunch date) and the annual contract agreement with a physician. My delegating physician could view my medical records 24/7 through the EHR, and did look at a few records, but never made any comments. Then she decided to up the fee to over a thousand a month, which I just couldn't pay, AND pay the 2 employees. Luckily, a physician friend took pity upon me and has been performing the requiring delegation activities for no cost. I would not be able to stay in business if it weren't for him. PLEASE, PLEASE help us help the citizens of Texas and make care affordable!

---

jennifer Monical, FNP-C

Brazosport Area Nurse Practitioners

Lake Jackson, TX

Please consider passing this bill on to the Senate for approval. This bill will help to remove barriers to quality health care for all Texans!

---

lydia mwesigwa, RN

student

Carrollton, TX

Please remove this Bill

---

TaCharra Woodard, APRN, ACNP-BC

TNP, HANP

PearLand, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Rachell Nguyen, Nurse Practitioner

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Katy, TX

Removing the current restrictions over Nurse Practitioners will allow them to practice to their full capacity. This will benefit patient care, especially those in the rural area with limited access to physicians.

---

Elke Nutterfield

Self

McKinney, TX

Please support HB 2029. My husband is a retired military pilot, so I've received healthcare all over the world. Best healthcare ever, from my Nurse Practitioner here in Texas!

---

Alex Yee, APRN

Texas Nurse Practitioners

El paso, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029

---

Amanda Wiegel, APRN, FNP-C

Texas APRNs

Conroe, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Joseph Baldovino

Self RN

Pearland, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Laura Anderson, FNP

Self

Fort Worth, TX

Relating to APRN's authority to practice without partnering with a physician is imperative in today's world. APRN's are trained to care for patients in a variety of settings. Allowing them to work independently will benefit patients, the healthcare field and the communities we live in. Wait times are not as long to see APRN's which expedites care to the patient and can reduce hospital visits, and mortality rates. APRN's are nurses that care for patients as a whole without addressing only one issue. Many patients report they feel that APRN's are actually listening to them. Having to partner with a physician can cause slower turnaround times in patient care. Also this can lead to miscommunication and missed diagnosis and delayed treatment for the patient. I am a proponent of independent APRN authority. APRN's have completed the required education, training and hours required to get where we are and partnering with a physician feels like we just aren't quite good enough. The medical field is full of professionals that continually seek advice from other disciplines and APRN's are no different. Healthcare must continue to be about collaborating for the purpose of improved outcomes for patients. That will not change if HB 2029 passes.

---

Nicole Crosby, APRN, AGNP-C

Self, Nurse Practitioner

Magnolia, TX

As an NP that has been practicing for almost 7 years and also an owner of a small business medical clinic, I see the value in allowing NPs to practice without delegation. This opens up more care to community's that don't have MDs nearby.

---

Laura DeFreitas

Self

Georgetown, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Jamie Rowland

Self-Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

Mansfield, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

This directly affects my ability to care for pediatric patients. Pediatric providers are overloaded and granting full practice authority would allow for more access to specialized care for those who are vulnerable and the future of our state. Don't let this bill go unpaused!

---

Cheyenne Conway, Mrs.

self, student certified nurse midwife, RN, IBCLC

San Antonio, TX

APRNs should be allowed to practice to the full extent of their training and education to serve Texans, especially those in rural health care provider shortage areas. The need for health care providers in Texas is great. Texas ranks second as the state with the most healthcare provider shortage areas and medically underserved areas. The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) estimates over 15,000 health care providers are needed to fill this need. <https://data.hrsa.gov/topics/health-workforce/shortage-areas>

Texans deserve access to health care. APRNs are ready to provide it. Why will you continue to limit access to healthcare for Texans?

---

Yvette Brooks, FNP-C

Synergy Lifestyle Medicine

Ft Worth, TX

Advanced practice registered nurses should be given full authority to practice within their scope of practice. Continuing to restrict our practice only does a disservice to Texas citizens with limited access to competent care.

---

Trenise Griffith

Self

Houston, TX

APRNs are needed now more than ever before. The restrictions placed on APRNs in Texas are outdated. Many states support APRNs as individual practitioners working within our scope of practice. Florida just opened the door for APRNs to have full practice authority. It is time for a change Texas. Allowing APRNs to have full practice authority will be a huge blessing to the citizens of Texas. It will also relieve some of the burden placed on APRNs that make them want to go to other states where we are more valued as health care professionals. I'm personally considering moving to Florida because of this restriction. I would love to stay in Texas because this is my home but it's too much of a burden to have a collaborating physician and have to pay for their services forever. I think that like our fellow southern state Florida and many other states throughout our great country, we



should be more open minded when it comes to allowing APRNs to practice to the fullest extent of our education without a collaborating physician. Thank you for reading this. Be blessed.

---

Toni Briggs

self-CPA

Carrollton, TX

Please support HB 2029. The only people I could see possibly being AGAINST it would be those financially benefitting in some way. I don't know a single person that is against Nurse Practitioners. This bill needs to happen for the PEOPLE OF TEXAS, not for politics or money.

---

Monnie Adereti, Dr.

self Family Nurse Practitioner

Grand Prairie, TX

Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Jeanne Ingebretsen

Self-HR Professional for Public Entity

Mckinney, TX

Support House Bill 2029! This is a no cost, no brainer solution to improving access to care

---

Willie Watson III, MD

Self; Primary care physician, Pediatrician

Midland, TX

I would encourage the members of the committee and the legislature to oppose this bill. Given that our APN associates are not educated as physicians, it seems inappropriate to allow them to practice as physicians. I have worked with Nurse Practitioners for over forty years and value their contributions to our health care team. My practice currently employs two PNP's and they are valued by our practice physicians.

However, I firmly believe that their scope of practice should not be expanded to be equivalent to that of a physician, unless they are required to have an equivalent education.

Thank you for your consideration.

---

Kurt Gensler

Self-Pharmacist

Farmersville, TX

Support of HB 2029. Shouldn't Texans be allowed to choose there health care provider?

---

Tamara Killough

Self

Winters, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

---

Haley Sng

Self

Flower Mound, TX

As someone who has been under the care of a nurse midwife for all 3 of my pregnancies, I believe these unnecessary restrictions should be removed. It's ridiculous that the choice of mothers will be extremely limited because of a signature from a doctor. We need to remove the financial gain of physicians and allow advanced practice nurses to be able to provide quality and affordable care to those of us who choose it here in Texas.

We need to continue to provide many options of care for Texans and not limit those providers who are willing to give it!

---

Rosalyn Jones-Waters, RN

self, TNA member District 9

Katy, TX

Good morning,

I encourage you to support HB 2029 by House Public Health Chair Stephanie Klick under consideration today in the House Public Health Committee. Texas House Bill 2029 would remove needless and unfair barriers to APRNs practicing to the full scope of their training and education and increase access to health care for all Texans.

Supporting HB 2029 allows APRNs to perform the work they're already doing, without the unneeded administrative and financial burdens that restrict health care to Texans, particularly those in underserved areas. These barriers encourage APRNs to leave Texas in large numbers to practice in states that have ended physician delegation requirements. None of the 31 states or Washington D.C. have seen an increase in safety issues or malpractice since removing barriers to APRN practice.

Overall, HB 2029 removes outdated constraints on APRN practice while increasing options for quality health care to all Texans, no matter where they live. I encourage you to support HB 2029 when it is scheduled for your consideration today. Removing the extreme regulations that prevent APRNs from practicing to the full scope of their education and training will be beneficial for all Texans in need of health care.

Thank you very much for your consideration!

Rosalyn Jones-Waters BSN RN OCN

---

Jamie Ethridge

Self-Healthcare Management

McKinney, TX

Support HB2029. Texas is #46 in health professional over-regulation. Texas is last in access to health care. Coincidence?? I think not. Please put politics aside and do what is right for health care access in Texas.

---

Kerri Cravey

Self nurse practitioner

Huntsville, TX

Thank you for your consideration in this to further grant access of healthcare to underserved populations. I am for passing legislature for full practice authority as other states have successfully completed.

---

Stephanie Evans, Dr.

Self, PhD prepared Pediatric Nurse Practitioner

Keller, TX

I am writing to support the progression of the HB in the system. NPs have been in practice for 50+ years and are a vital part of the healthcare system and needed to provide care and meet the needs where providers are currently limited. With advanced education and training, nurse practitioners should be allowed to practice to the extent of their education. This LINK: <https://campaignforaction.org/resource/state-practice-environment-nurse-practitioners/> provides detailed information on the state of advanced practice for NPs in the US and demonstrates that Texas is lacking behind in legislation for advancing NPs practice and scope of practice.

Please consider the improvement of healthcare for the individuals in the State of Texas with improved number of providers which would result from passage of this legislation.

Thank you.

Stephanie C. Evans, PhD, APRN, CPNP-PC, CLC

Assistant Professor

College of Nursing

Texas Woman's University

Dallas Campus

---

Susanne Adams

Self-Psychiatric & Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Dallas, TX

This is to support House Bill 2029. More than 15 million Texans live in a mental health care shortage area. Mental health much worse since COVID. We can't take anymore mass shootings in this country. Please vote to pass this bill.

---

Katherine Samuel

Self - Preparedness and Response coordinator

Stafford, TX

As a consumer who supports access to the Midwives Model of Care, I support HB 2029, to remove barriers to care from Certified Nurse Midwives.

---

Katrina Lund  
Self-Acute Care Nurse Practitioner  
Frisco, TX

This is in support of House Bill 2029. For more than 50 years, Nurse Practitioners have been dedicated to patient health, working as providers of primary, specialty and acute care in a variety of settings. Last year, patients elected to see an NP for their care for more than 1 billion visits. Let the patients choose their healthcare provider.

---

Barry Hughes, FNP  
Self. Urology NP  
Austin, TX

FOR

---

Colleen Jernigan  
Self  
Houston, TX

My name is Colleen Jernigan and I am a Registered Nurse living in Houston, working at MD Anderson, and a member of the Houston Chapter of Oncology Nursing Board. I am writing to encourage your support of HB 2029 by House Public Health Chair Stephanie Klick when it comes up for consideration today in the House Public Health Committee. Although I am not an APRN I believe Texas House Bill 2029 would remove unnecessary and unfair barriers allowing APRNs to practice to the full extent of their education and increase access to health care for Texans.

Supporting HB 2029 allows APRNs to perform the work they're already doing, without the unnecessary administrative and financial burdens that restrict health care to Texans, particularly those in underserved areas. These barriers encourage APRNs to leave Texas to practice in states that have ended physician delegation requirements. None of those 31 states, including Washington D.C. and the V.A., have seen an increase in malpractice or safety issues since removing these barriers. HB 2029 removes outdated and unnecessary constraints on APRN practice while increasing options for quality health care to all Texans, no matter where they live.

I encourage you to support HB 2029 when it is scheduled for your discussion today. Removing the excessive regulations that prevent APRNs from practicing to the full scope of their education will be beneficial for all Texans in search of health care.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

---

Congling Wang, APRN  
Self  
Frisco, TX

The APRN should have the right to practice independently without a supervising. The right should be in people's hand to choose a APRN or a doctor. In that way, people do not have to pay the supervising part of bill. Insurance would save. Especially when a doctor is not even their.

---

Kelly Ruemmele, APRN

Self - pediatric nurse practitioner

Houston, TX

Please support FPA for APRNs in Texas

---

Sharon Hillgartner

Self-Women's Health Nurse Practitioner

Lantana, TX

Please vote YES for House Bill 2029. Thirty-one other states have removed barriers to health care access. Zero have reversed their decision. Governor Abbott waived restrictions 1 year ago, and to my knowledge there have been no problems. Passage of this bill will make the waiver permanent.

---

Titilope Witemire

Self

GRAND PRAIRIE, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in healthcare shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. Please support more access some more options for Texas patients and Support HB 2029.

---

Mabel Nwachukwu, APRN

"Self"/Nursing

Balch Springs, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military and the District of Columbia already have.

---

Malika Jefferson, NP

AANP

Houston, TX

I support the passing of HB 2029

---

Chip Kruger

Self-Retired Engineer

Plano, TX

Yes to HB 2029. If you don't vote for this, you are voting against your constituents and all Texans.

---

Laureen Knorr, APRN, CNM

Self

Kemah, TX

Fully supported

---

Joy Keeton

Texas Nurse Practitioners

Godley, TX

This is needed for more access to primary care providers especially in rural areas of Texas

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Michelle Hughes

Self-Retired

Plano, TX

Please support House Bill 2029. All you have to do is listen to the news and know we need all health care professionals doing the jobs they are trained for. Please remove all of the artificial barriers on Nurse Practitioners. Many states did away with these old laws years ago and they have all done just fine. Otherwise, wouldn't we see the daily body count in the newspaper?

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Macy Pickett, RN

Self- RN

Conroe, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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Meghana Kovvuri, Dr

Self

Corpus Christi, TX

I am a physician in Texas. I do appreciate the help that we get through our advanced practice registered nurses. However, I do not think that they have the training that caters to good understanding of the pathophysiology of the disease patterns and strongly feel like they are an asset as help to physicians with the physicians responsible for the advanced practitioners. I do not feel they should be practicing independently.

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Terry Throckmorton

Self

Missouri City, TX

My name is Terry Throckmorton. I am a registered nurse and have lived in Texas since 1975. I represent the Houston Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society to the Nursing Legislative Action Coalition. I encourage you to support HB 2029 by House Public Health Chair Stephanie Klick when it comes up for consideration today in

the House Public Health Committee.

Texas House Bill 2029 would remove unnecessary and unfair barriers to APRNs practicing to the full extent of their education and increase access to health care for Texans.

Supporting HB 2029 allows APRNs to perform the work they are already doing, without the unnecessary administrative and financial burdens that restrict health care to Texans, particularly those in underserved areas. These barriers encourage APRNs to leave Texas in droves to practice in states that have ended physician delegation requirements. None of those 31 states, including Washington D.C. and the V.A., have seen an increase in malpractice or safety issues since removing barriers to APRN practice.

HB 2029 removes outdated and unnecessary constraints on APRN practice while increasing options for quality health care to all Texans, no matter where they live.

I encourage you to support HB 2029 when it is scheduled for your consideration today. Removing the excessive regulations that prevent APRNs from practicing to the full scope of their education will be beneficial for all Texans in search of health care.

I appreciate your consideration!"  
Thank you!

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Kathy Hu  
Self / Nursing Student  
Houston, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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Shantell Hayes  
Self, APRN  
Springtown, TX

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Thad Gillespie, Dr.  
Self/ Dentist  
Georgetown, TX

I am in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. The delegation mandate deprives Physicians of time they could better spend with patients and is not necessary for APRNs.

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Krystal Brown, CNM  
CTCNM  
Allen, TX

As advanced practice nurses and certified nurse midwives we, are professionally educated with our masters and PHDs to care for our patients. In most cases, we have worked as nurses in our area of expertise prior to pursuing higher education. Certified nurse midwives are fully capable to care for the uncomplicated woman during pregnancy, labor, birth, and postpartum without physician oversight.

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Adam Skidmore, Mr

Self

Keller, TX

This is bill that helps all Texas by increasing ease of access to quality medical care by licensed board certified professional health care providers. It will also lower health care cost as has been seen in states through country while still insuring quality medical care. Don't believe the lobbyist for the TMBA that APRNs can not provide the same quality of care that an MD or DO can, as this has been proven untrue many times over through the country.

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Wendy Nasser, Dr

Self

Humble, TX

I support removing restrictions for advanced practice providers in the state of TX. Nurse practitioners and physician assistants are educated and required to pass licensure boards in order to practice in their respective fields. They are necessary and capable of providing independent health care (free of physician oversight) to patients in Texas.

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Laurie Beall

Self-RN

Dallas, TX

Support of HB 2029. Texas has some of the most restrictive and archaic laws in the nation. People keep moving here from out of state. Our population is getting older. We need health care and we don't have enough physicians, nurses, or many other health professionals. Please help us help our patients!!

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Stephanie Evans, Dr.

Self; Advanced Practice Nurse Practitioner

Keller, TX

There is a concern about "medicine" and who can and who cannot practice medicine. There are multiple definitions of medicine from Webster's and NONE of them include the word PHYSICIAN. The "practice of medicine" can be done by a 6 year old placing a Band-Aid on another child with a skinned knee. There is Ancient Medicine, Native American Medicine Men, and other uses of the word. WE all need to adapt and overcome the focus on the word and move forward to the term healthcare! There are MANY various types of healthcare providers, physicians are just ONE of the many who practice healthcare of humans, and the term medicine is used in place of the reality of healthcare treatment.

This bill is NOT about NP scope, NPS are trained and have the education and background, most all do, and if we can all find isolated cases of individuals who have a license at every level who we question their knowledge and ability to include physicians whom I would never trust. It was not that long ago in history when physicians with the D.O. degree were not seen as real physicians and were blocked from some areas of practice.



It is time to move forward, realize the collaboration is part of the healthcare setting and regardless of a piece of paper providers at all levels will always collaborate as appropriate.

Continuing with the delegation as written now limits my ability to provide care to those in need if I do not alert my physician and ask his permission.

NPS have their own certification, OWN licensure, we DO NOT practice on a physician license. This outdated regulation limits the ability to provide care by requiring a signed piece of paper which is just that, a piece of paper that limits access to care.

There is significant education which is needed for the committee and legislators to truly understand the way education, certification, licensure, and regulating bodies work within the state. I would be more than willing to drive to Austin and present this information.

Stephanie C. Evans, PhD, APRN, CPNP-PC  
Assistant Professor  
TWU Nursing

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Nancy Reedy, RN, CNM, MPH  
Self APRN Certified Nurse-Midwife  
Arlington, TX

I strongly support this bill to improve the health of the people of Texas. My special interest is childbearing women. We have one of the highest rates of maternal mortality in the USA. Lack of access to health care before, during and after pregnancy contributes significantly to the serious illness and death of women in Texas. Restricting advanced practice nurses and nurse-midwives is unnecessary---restrictions were removed for emergencies such as Katrina and other disasters and health care availability was improved with good outcomes and no reported adverse events. Eight years ago, t, I wanted to open a women's health center that would provide primary and maternal/newborn care for women in a seriously underserved community with very poor maternal and newborn outcomes. Women in the community had no public transportation and no health services within the community. I had funding so all that was needed was the required physician support. No physician would provide the required support giving reasons such as: I would have to take those referrals and they can't pay, I wont take Medicaid and thats what they have,, those women aren't wanted in our hospital (not true) and I don't want my regular patients to know I am helping in that neighborhood. Several physicians would agree to sign the necessary documents but required fees that were beyond my ability to pay and they specifically said they would not take any referrals. I had ethical problems with paying them for signatures. My scope of practice as an APRN Certified nurse-midwife in Texas provides all the skills I needed to care for the women but I was blocked by physicians for reasons that are highly questionable. Again, I offer strong support for this bill on behalf of the people of Texas who need our care.

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Jennifer Burbage-Vieth, DNP, Dr.  
Texas Nurse Practitioners  
Wichita Falls, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Katie Wavering  
Self

Forney, TX

Requiring APRNs to have a collaborative physician is an unnecessary and outdated law. Texas needs to release APRNs from the bondage oppressed by the medical board to undermine and discredit the consistently voted most trusted profession. APRNs provide high quality patient care independently and we deserve the respect we have earned. Please vote for Texas to become part of the majority and remove the restrictions to give your citizens more access to the healthcare you know they need and deserve. Thank you for reading this.

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Meiyan Jiang, RN

Self

Flower Mound, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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KUDY ADELAKUN, NP

SELF

Richmond, TX

As an NP, our education, clinical didactical and skills and years of nursing skills and experiences have provided us with wealth of knowledge to practice fully per our scope of practice.

We are passionate about taking care of our patient, empowering our patient/family to take control of their health through education, support, and partnering with them to live healthier and utmost healthy life.

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William Rattan, PA Student

Self - Physician Assistant Student

White Settlement, TX

I am writing today in opposition to HB 2029.

I am a student in a Texas physician assistant (PA) program, so I highly value the contributions that advanced practice providers like PAs and nurse practitioners (NPs) make to healthcare. However, I believe these positions were created to supplement physicians and to expand care, not to replace physicians. NPs and PAs are highly skilled and highly trained, but nothing can replace the 4 years of medical school, the 3 to 7 years of residency, and the fellowships that physicians undergo as part of their training. According to a brief by the Primary Care Coalition, physicians complete their training with some 16,000 hours of clinical experience compared with 1,500 hours for NPs.

Additionally, many want to promote independent practice authority for NPs because they recognize a lack of access to care in rural Texas communities. However, according to a letter from the executive Vice President of the AMA to Governor Newsom, NPs “tend to practice in the same areas of the state as physicians, even in states where nurse practitioners have had independent practice for decades.” Additionally, this letter suggests that new NPs are choosing to practice in specialties rather than primary care. We can take this evidence to mean that granting NPs independent practice authority will not remedy the great lack of primary care and mental health care that many Texans now face.

Furthermore, some may claim that granting NPs independent practice would reduce health care costs, but the letter I mentioned

above references research that shows NPs with independent practice authority prescribe twenty times the amount of opioids and order more diagnostic tests than physicians which would not reduce health care costs.

Lastly, I am personally very concerned about granting independent practice authority to Advanced Practice Registered Nurses while keeping their oversight under the Texas Board of Nursing. The board of nursing consists only of nurses and consumer representatives. In contrast, the boards in Texas that oversee PAs, respiratory care practitioners, medical radiology technologists, and even acupuncturists all consist of physicians in addition to the members of the public and of the field in question. I believe that this disparity is not fair and does not adequately hold NPs accountable at the same level as PAs. Ideally, I believe a single agency consisting of career civil servants as well as representatives from all health professions should oversee physicians and non-physician providers alike.

In conclusion, I ask that the members of this committee would vote against HB 2029 because it would not increase access to care or improve patient safety.

Sincerely,  
William Rattan, PA-S

<https://www.tafp.org/Media/Default/Downloads/advocacy/scope-education.pdf>  
<https://www.ama-assn.org/practice-management/scope-practice/3-big-reasons-why-letting-nps-practice-independently-bad-idea>

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Brittany Atkinson, NP

Self

Houston, TX

Evidence has shown that NP's are safe, efficient, and cost efficient. Please allow us to work in our scope of practice with out the constraints of physician collaboration via contractual agreements. Collaboration as a team is imperative to patient care and should not be contractual.

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Cheryl Jones

Emmaus Healthcare PLLC

RICHMOND, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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Laurel Hannigan

Self, Licensed Massage Therapist

Plano, TX

I support this

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Leslie Geick

self

Mansfield, TX

Please pass! Please support this! Women and families need more access to quality care with fewer restrictions

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Vanessa Bounds, APRN, AGACNP-BC

self

Wichita Falls, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Mandy Cotten

Self, NP

Fort Worth, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have. APRNs have advanced education and are fully capable of performing primary care needs and aesthetic needs of patients without physician collaboration. Knowing ones limits is part of education, having a good referral network is imperative to a good practitioner (MD, DO or NP). Referrals in necessary situations can replace the need for oversight. There should be no limitations for APRNs providing primary care to patients which will increase patient access to care.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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LINDA REID-BONNEMA, APRN, FNP

AANP

CANYON LAKE, TX

I'm writing to support HB 2029. As a FNP for over 15 years and a ARMY VETERAN, I've worked in many health care shortage areas. Texas MUST remove the delegation mandate as many other states, including the VA have done. Nurse Practitioners aren't wanting to replace physician's, we want to work within our scope of practice to take care of the most vulnerable patients that don't have access to health care. We don't need to be supervised by a physician, we need to practice independently, because many physicians don't want to work in rural areas where access to healthcare is most needed. PLEASE pass HB 2029!  
The people of Texas need nurse practitioners and the immigrants coming into Texas need us too!!

Sincerely,

Linda Reid-Bonnema APRN, FNP

Sgt, United States Army

Capt, U.S. Air Force Reserves, Ret.

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Kara Broecker

None

Flower Mound, TX

Please pass this bill! It's very important to so many!

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Michelle Hughes, CNM

self

PFLUGERVILLE, TX

Please support increasing access to care by removing physician oversight!

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Samantha Hutchinson

Self, Nurse Practitioner

San Antonio, TX

Full Practice Authority is the only viable solution to increasing access to healthcare.

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Stella Logan, APRN, PMHCNS-BC, PMHNP-BC

Self APRN

Austin, TX

Dear esteemed Committee Members,

I'm writing in support of HB2029. I am a dual Ky certified APRN specializing in psychiatry and mental health. The restrictions currently in place by Texas rules on my and other APRNs practice has unnecessary and grossly negative effects on both the quality and availability of health care for Texans. Research has demonstrated repeatedly that APRNs are educated to diagnose and treat patients safely and with high levels of patient satisfaction. States with unrestricted practice have higher levels of health overall than states with more restrictions. We lose thousands of patient care hours every year as nurses leave Texas for other states where practice is unrestricted, whether it's moving, driving across the border to NM, or providing telehealth to out of state patients. Our state needs competent providers who can diagnose and treat patients! The coronavirus has demonstrated our competency and influenced other states. The mental health pandemic that is co-occurring with the COVID pandemic is not going to disappear with an immunization, and is going to take knowledgeable and AVAILABLE experts to treat these patients. Please look at the data and don't be swayed by a small group of people who have been misinformed or who are thinking more of themselves than of the people of Texas.

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James Berg

Self

Frisco, TX

I am for this bill please remove restrictions.

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Allen Viktorin

Self

Richmond, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029.

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Charles Dunnahoe

Hometown Medical Associates

Corsicana, TX

Texas has been evolving for years just like other states. Now is time for Texas to allow Nurse Practitioners to practice autonomously. The strain on health care in Texas continues to grow especially in rural areas. I am a practicing Family Nurse Practitioner and having to work under the supervision of a Medical Doctor is often difficult and sometimes forces providers to work in areas that do not allow them to fully met needs of the public to the best of their abilities. Texas is and always has been a leader in the United States and a state that other states look to for leadership. It is time for Texas to join the other 23 states that allow Nurse Practitioners to fully practice out trade.

Respectfully

Charles R Dunnahoe MSN, FNP-BC

903-258-6524

Crduunnahoe@hmacorsicana.com

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Adam Graves, FNP-C

TNP

Amarillo, TX

I am writing today in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate, just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia already have.

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Jane Bolin, Dr.

Nurse--Community Programs and Cancer Screenings in Central and East Texas

College Station, TX

Dear Committee Chair Klick and Honorable Committee: Please support our rural and underserved populations and Nurse Practitioners by passing House Bill 2029. These constraints are hurting poor, uninsured, and rural Texans. Allow our Nurse Practitioners to do what the licensure law already allows. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas, and APRNs can help. But first, the state needs to remove the delegation mandate A majority of states, (31 states, the V.A), as well as all branches of the military, and the District of Columbia have removed these artificial and harmful laws that impact the health of our underserved and rural populations. Please support more access and more options for Texas patients and support HB 2029. Respectfully, Jane Nelson Bolin, College Station, Texas

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Janelle Elie-Murray, Nurse practitioner

Self

Pearland, TX

I am writing in support of HB 2029. Millions of Texans live in health care shortage areas and APRNs can help. But first the state needs to remove the delegation mandate just like 31 states, the V.A. all branches of the military and the District of Columbia already have.

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Madison Rattan

self, medical student

Galveston, TX

Hello,

I am asking you to please vote "NO" on HB2029.

I am a student in the UTMB School of Medicine. As a future physician, I believe that Nurse Practitioners (NPs) play an important role in healthcare teams. NPs are intended to expand care, however, not replace physicians. Physician-led teams are in the best interest of our future patients.

Among other concerns, research shows that NPs are 20x as likely to over-prescribe opioids in states with independent practice (Lozada 2020).

Texans deserve the safety and standards of physician-led healthcare teams. Please vote "NO" on HB2029.

Lozada MJ, Raji MA, Goodwin JS, Kuo YF. Opioid Prescribing by Primary Care Providers: a Cross-Sectional Analysis of Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant, and Physician Prescribing Patterns. *J Gen Intern Med.* 2020;35(9):2584-2592.  
doi:10.1007/s11606-020-05823-0

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