



Proponent Testimony SB 196
Senate Health Committee
April 24, 2024

Chairman Huffman, Vice-chairman Johnson, and Ranking Minority Member Antonio. This testimony is submitted on behalf of ANA-Ohio, a relatively new but growing professional organization for all Ohio registered nurses. My name is Jan Lanier, a founding member of ANA-Ohio and a registered nurse for over 50 years.

On April 15, 2024, the ANA-Ohio Board of Directors announced its support of SB 196 that updates Ohio statutes, aligning them with APRNs' current patient care authority. This long-needed change allows APRNs to sign routine forms associated with patient care that is already part of their everyday practice authority. The bill makes no changes to the APRNs' current scope of practice. Its passage will, however, promote more seamless access to needed health care services. Currently, outdated policies prevent schools, agencies, or other health care providers from accepting forms with an APRN's signature thus creating unnecessary delays for patients and exacerbating roadblocks that already impede smooth access within the health care system.

ANA-Ohio understands that the bill before the committee is the product of extensive collaboration between the Ohio Association of Advanced Practice Nurses and the Ohio State Medical Association. We appreciate the dedication these groups demonstrated through their determination to address this longstanding issue. When groups such as these work together, the end result generally improves outcomes for patients, their families, and the overall system. It is important, as we wrestle with the fiscal and accessibility challenges facing all Ohioans, that decision makers continue to thoughtfully and systematically eliminate barriers that no longer serve a necessary patient-centered purpose.

Thank you for considering this testimony and for your commitment to improving health care for all Ohioans.

Submitted by Jan Lanier, JD, RN
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