

April 1, 2024

Chair Huffman, Vice-Chair Johnson, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Senate Health committee,

I am testifying on behalf of Trinity Health System, to support the passage of SB 196 and urge the Committee to consider the profound benefits of granting Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) the authority to sign patient documents. This straightforward yet impactful legislation aligns with the practices of sixteen states and the District of Columbia, which have already embraced broad-based signature authority laws.

The implementation of global signature authority will strengthen healthcare delivery by enhancing efficiency, reducing costs, and ultimately improving patient satisfaction. By empowering APRN's to sign routine documents, we can streamline administrative processes, ensuring timely access to essential services for patients.

Consider the cost-saving implications of this policy. Administrative inefficiencies often inflate healthcare costs unnecessarily, diverting resources away from patient care. Allowing APRNs to sign routine documents eliminates bureaucratic hurdles, thereby directing healthcare dollars towards frontline services rather than administrative overhead.

Moreover, recognizing APRNs' signatures on essential documents expedites healthcare processes, ensuring prompt access to services for patients. From certifying disability for parking placards to conducting sports physicals for student athletes, APRN signature recognition facilitates seamless and efficient delivery of care, enhancing overall patient experience. This patient-centered approach not only fosters trust and confidence in the healthcare system but also empowers individuals to actively participate in their healthcare decisions.

Furthermore, streamlining administrative processes allows healthcare providers to focus more on delivering comprehensive care. Enhanced coordination among members of the healthcare team leads to better communication, reduced errors, and ultimately, improved patient outcomes.

In conclusion, granting APRNs the authority to sign patient documents is a commonsense policy that promises significant benefits for patients, healthcare providers, and healthcare systems alike. By prioritizing efficiency, cost-effectiveness, and patient satisfaction, we continue to create a healthcare system that is accessible, streamlined, and responsive to the needs of all individuals.

Thank you for considering our testimony and for your commitment to advancing policies that promote high-quality, affordable healthcare for all. I am happy to answer any questions.

Sincerely,



Matt Grimshaw
President & CEO