



## PROPONENT TESTIMONY, SB 196, SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE, 4.24.24

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

Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit written proponent testimony for SB 196. My name is Hannah Kubbins and I am the Legislative Director for Americans for Prosperity – Ohio (AFP).

Decades of one-size-fits-all solutions have made healthcare cost too much and deliver too little. We have a top-down paradigm in our current healthcare system, which means third party control of care through programs, spending, and complex regulations that limit options and increase costs to the patient. AFP's chapters across the country are breaking down the top-down, third party paradigm in healthcare through our Personal Option campaign with solutions including:

- Price transparency and certainty.
- Increased access to trusted doctors.
- Quality, affordable insurance.
- Prescription drugs at lower prices.

Accordingly, AFP-OH supports SB 196, which addresses global signature authority for advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs).

It's not uncommon for APRNs to sign forms documenting patient care, treatment orders, referrals, and more. However outdated policies are still in place that prohibit schools, agencies, and healthcare providers from accepting forms solely signed by an APRN.

SB 196, put simply, modernizes the code governing advance practice registered nurses (APRNs). It addresses the problem above by granting additional authority to sign or complete forms relating to patient care within their scope of practice. As pointed out by the bill's sponsor, global signature authority improves patient care by removing barriers for APRNs, allowing for increased access to care, quality of care, and decreased costs to the patient. The bill also increases efficiency and saves time for patients in several ways, including eliminating the need for multiple providers to sign one patient's form. By granting global signature authority to APRNs, the patient can receive their care and completed forms in one visit versus multiple.

We should always be searching for ways to provide quality, efficient, personalized, transparent, and cost-effective healthcare. SB 196 is a step in the right direction toward

the goal of a healthcare system that is easy to navigate, affordable, and patient focused. AFP-OH thanks Senator Roegner for championing this issue and thanks the committee for holding hearings on SB 196. I can be reached by email at [hkubbins@afphq.org](mailto:hkubbins@afphq.org) or by phone at 614-905-2551 for any questions.