

March 3, 2015

Sen. Cathy Giessel
Alaska State Capitol, Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: Senate Bill 53 – Related to Advanced Practice Registered Nursing - SUPPORT

Dear Sen. Giessel,

On behalf of AARP Alaska's 86,000 members, we appreciate your leadership in sponsoring SB 53, and we offer our support. As the profession of nursing evolves, so does the need for updated nomenclature, and SB 53 accomplishes that by combining nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, certified clinical nurse specialists, and nurse anesthetists into a single category, Advance Practice Registered Nurse (APRN).

Since its inception, AARP Alaska has been co-lead of the Alaska Nurse Action Coalition, which was formed through a national initiative of AARP and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation to focus on recommendations contained in the 2010 Institute of Medicine report on nursing. As a participant with nurses from around the state, representing the gamut of practice settings and specialties, I have been gratified by the opportunity to collaborate on ways to expand opportunities for professional growth and leadership, promotion of best practices, and the development of a virtual Alaska Center on Nursing Excellence (ACONE <http://akcenterofnursing.org>).

The combination of all advance practice nurses under one title, APRN, will provide uniformity in licensure, accreditation, certification and education. It will also simplify third party reimbursement by clarifying the service provider. SB 53 does not alter scope of practice, but simply calls the high quality and professional care provided by the new name of Advance Practice Registered Nurse (APRN). We are pleased to offer our support and best wishes for passage and enactment of SB 53.

Respectfully,



Ken Helander
Advocacy Director

Khelander@aarp.org
907-762-3314

Margaret Rader CNM
PO Box 82205
Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

February 23, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SB 53

Dear Senator Giessel:

I am writing in support of SB 53, "an act related to advanced practice registered nursing." This bill updates the 34 year old title "advanced nurse practitioner" (ANP) to "advanced practice registered nurse" (APRN) and aligns Alaska statute with a nationwide movement called "The Consensus Model."

Under current Alaska law the title "ANP" includes nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, and certified clinical nurse specialists. Nurse anesthetists are a separate category of clinician. The Consensus Model includes all four specialties under the title "APRN."

The Consensus Model, promulgated by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, seeks uniformity in APRN licensure, accreditation, certification, and education. Uniformity will expedite insurance reimbursement by eliminating confusion about service provider; it will allow APRNs from other states to more easily obtain AK licensure, and vice versa.

SB 53 does not change scope of practice. ANPs and nurse anesthetists will continue to provide the same high quality, safe, accessible care they have provided to Alaskans across the state for 34 years. They will just have a new name: APRN.

Thank you very much for your advocacy on this issue. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Margaret Rader ANP CNM
907 455 6357 (home)
907 750 6338 (cell)
email: margaret.rader@tananachiefs.org

Amy Myers
8661 Brookridge Drive
Anchorage, AK 99504

February 24, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SB 53

Dear Senator Giessel:

I am writing in support of SB 53, "an act related to advanced practice registered nursing." This bill updates the 34 year old title "advanced nurse practitioner" (ANP) to "advanced practice registered nurse" (APRN) and aligns Alaska statute with a nationwide movement called "The Consensus Model."

Under current Alaska law the title "ANP" includes nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, and certified clinical nurse specialists. Nurse anesthetists are a separate category of clinician. The Consensus Model includes all four specialties under the title "APRN."

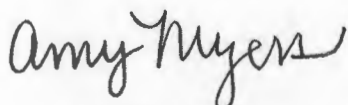
The Consensus Model, promulgated by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, seeks uniformity in APRN licensure, accreditation, certification, and education. Uniformity will expedite insurance reimbursement by eliminating confusion about service provider; it will allow APRNs from other states to more easily obtain AK licensure, and vice versa.

I started the CNS journey back in 2009 when I became interested in becoming an advanced nurse. I had been a nurse for over 22 years and I knew I wanted to be in an advanced role. Being a CNS provides me with a way to still be clinical and work on improving quality care and outcomes. I remember going to the Board of Nursing with the Director of Nursing Practice during my school rotations and did not think it would be possible that a CNS would have title protection. Now that we do, coming in line with The Consensus Model would better align all of the advanced practice nurses into the role that we were trained to function with the rest of the nation. Your consideration and support is greatly appreciated.

SB 53 does not change scope of practice. ANPs and nurse anesthetists will continue to provide the same high quality, safe, accessible care they have provided to Alaskans across the state for 34 years. They will just have a new name: APRN.

Thank you very much for your advocacy on this issue. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Amy Myers, MSN, RN, ACNS-BC, CNS-CP, CAPA, CGRN
907-339-2423
Abmyers5633@yahoo.com

18575 Seward Highway
Anchorage, AK 99516

March 15, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SB 53

Dear Senator Giessel:

I am writing in support of SB 53, "an act related to advanced practice registered nursing." This bill updates the 34 year old title "advanced nurse practitioner" (ANP) to "advanced practice registered nurse" (APRN) and aligns Alaska statute with a nationwide movement called "The Consensus Model."

Under current Alaska law the title "ANP" includes nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, and certified clinical nurse specialists. Nurse anesthetists are a separate category of clinician. The Consensus Model includes all four specialties under the title "APRN."

The Consensus Model, promulgated by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, seeks uniformity in APRN licensure, accreditation, certification, and education. Uniformity will expedite insurance reimbursement by eliminating confusion about service provider; it will allow APRNs from other states to more easily obtain AK licensure, and vice versa.

SB 53 does not change scope of practice. ANPs and nurse anesthetists will continue to provide the same high quality, safe, accessible care they have provided to Alaskans across the state for 34 years. They will just have a new name: APRN.

Thank you very much for your advocacy on this issue. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,
Andrea M. Hiles

Andrea M. Hiles, ANP, CNM
CNM Specialist
Southcentral Foundation
(907) 729-8669
Andrea.m.hiles@gmail.com
ahiles@scf.cc

3104 Brookside Drive
Anchorage, AK 99514
lhartz@ak.net
c. 907-227-5253

February 26, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Giessel:

Thank you for sponsoring SB 53, "an act related to advanced practice registered nursing." The bill will update the Advanced Nurse Practitioner (ANP) title, first adopted in 1980, to Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) making it consistent with the APRN title now used in the majority of states.

Under current Alaska law the title "ANP" includes nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, and certified clinical nurse specialists with nurse anesthetists as a separate category of clinician. The Consensus Model includes all four specialties under the title "APRN."

The Consensus Model, promulgated by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, seeks uniformity in APRN licensure, accreditation, certification, and education. Uniformity will expedite insurance reimbursement by eliminating confusion about service provider; it will allow APRNs from other states to more easily obtain AK licensure, and vice versa which will increase access to care for Alaskans.

SB 53 does not change scope of practice. ANPs and nurse anesthetists will continue to provide the same high quality, safe, accessible care they have provided to Alaskans across the state for 34 years. They will just have a new name: APRN.

Thank you very much for your advocacy on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Lynn Hartz MSN, FNP-BC
Member Alaska Nurse Practitioner Association
Member APRN Alliance
Past member Alaska State Board of Nursing 1983-1984 and 1999-2003



February 26, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SB 53

Dear Senator Giessel:

I am writing in support of SB 53, "an act related to advanced practice registered nursing." This bill updates the 34 year old title "advanced nurse practitioner" (ANP) to "advanced practice registered nurse" (APRN) and aligns Alaska statute with a nationwide movement called "The Consensus Model."

Under current Alaska law the title "ANP" includes nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, and certified clinical nurse specialists. Nurse anesthetists are a separate category of clinician. The Consensus Model includes all four specialties under the title "APRN."

The Consensus Model, promulgated by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, seeks uniformity in APRN licensure, accreditation, certification, and education. Uniformity will expedite insurance reimbursement by eliminating confusion about service provider; it will allow APRNs from other states to more easily obtain AK licensure, and vice versa.

As an advanced nurse practitioner (Certified Nurse-Midwife and Family Nurse Practitioner) who is also a health-related business owner, I value the opportunity to create state language that is consistent with emerging national standards for advanced nursing practice. FASDx Services LLC is the referral/coordination hub for the Anchorage Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders (FASD) Diagnostic Team.

Other health professionals and consumers may find the new language more recognizable (i.e. with the RN in the acronym) as relating to nursing practice. We've come a long way since the 1960's when the nurse practitioner role was first developed, and, as one of the early ANPs in Alaska (my ANP # is 108), I have watched as the increasing varieties of educational titles/initials have grown to further confuse folks who are not in our field.

SB 53 does not change scope of practice. ANPs and nurse anesthetists will continue to provide the same high quality, safe, accessible care they have provided to Alaskans across the state for 34 years. They will just have a new name: APRN...and it will be consistent with the rest of the U.S.

Thank you very much for your advocacy for your advocacy on this issue. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,



Marilyn Pierce-Bulger, ANP
FASDx Services LLC
741 Sesame Street Suite 1B
Anchorage, AK 99503-6657
907/865-3279 phone 907/865-7979 fax
marilynpb@fasdxservices.com

March 6, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Giessel:

We are writing as the State-Co Leads for the Alaska Nursing Action Coalition to thank you for sponsoring SB 53, "an act related to advanced practice registered nursing." This bill updates the 34 year old title "advanced nurse practitioner" (ANP) to "advanced practice registered nurse" (APRN) and aligns Alaska statute with a nationwide movement called "The Consensus Model."

Under current Alaska law the title "ANP" includes nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, and certified clinical nurse specialists. Nurse anesthetists are a separate category of clinician. The Consensus Model includes all four specialties under the title "APRN."

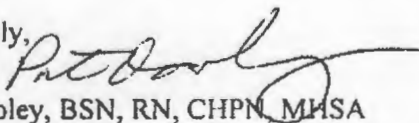
The Consensus Model, promulgated by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, seeks uniformity in APRN licensure, accreditation, certification, and education. Uniformity will expedite insurance reimbursement by eliminating confusion about service provider; it will allow APRNs from other states to more easily obtain AK licensure, and vice versa.

SB 53 does not change scope of practice. ANPs and nurse anesthetists will continue to provide the same high quality, safe, accessible care they have provided to Alaskans across the state for 34 years. They will just have a new name: APRN.

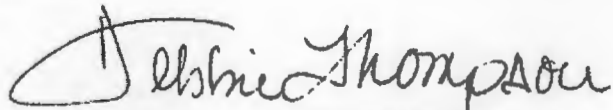
The Alaska Nursing Action Coalition is a nurse-led organization formed in 2012 to advocate for nurses and coordinate the work of Alaska nurses as we look for ways to improve the health of all Alaskans. One of the strategies we support is clearing up the confusion that surrounds nursing titles, even among nurses. The use of the APRN designation will align Alaskan Advanced Practice Register Nurse titles with national recommendations and trends, helping to create more efficient and effective collaboration between health care providers, patients and families, and other entities and organizations charged with caring for the health of our communities.

Thank you very much for your advocacy on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Pat Dooley, BSN, RN, CHPN, MHA



Debbie Thompson, BSN, RN, CNOR

Co-Leads for the Alaska Nursing Action Coalition

March 6, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Giessel:

We are writing to express our support for SB 53, "an act related to advanced practice registered nursing." This bill updates the 34-year-old title "advanced nurse practitioner" (ANP) to "advanced practice registered nurse" (APRN) and aligns Alaska statute with a nationwide movement called "The Consensus Model."

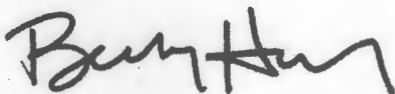
Under current Alaska law the title "ANP" includes nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, and certified clinical nurse specialists. Nurse anesthetists are a separate category of clinician. The Consensus Model includes all four specialties under the title "APRN."

The Consensus Model, promulgated by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, seeks uniformity in APRN licensure, accreditation, certification, and education. Uniformity will expedite insurance reimbursement by eliminating confusion about service provider; it will allow APRNs from other states to more easily obtain Alaska licensure, and vice versa.

SB 53 does not change scope of practice. ANPs and nurse anesthetists will continue to provide the same high quality, safe, accessible care they have provided to Alaskans across the state for 34 years. They will just have a new name: APRN.

Thank you very much for your advocacy on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Becky Hultberg
President/CEO



APRN ALLIANCE

February 22, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Giessel:

We are writing to thank you for sponsoring SB 53, "an act related to advanced practice registered nursing." This bill updates the 34 year old title "advanced nurse practitioner" (ANP) to "advanced practice registered nurse" (APRN) and aligns Alaska statute with a nationwide movement called "The Consensus Model."

Under current Alaska law the title "ANP" includes nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, and certified clinical nurse specialists. Nurse anesthetists are a separate category of clinician. The Consensus Model includes all four specialties under the title "APRN."

The Consensus Model, promulgated by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, seeks uniformity in APRN licensure, accreditation, certification, and education. Uniformity will expedite insurance reimbursement by eliminating confusion about service provider; it will allow APRNs from other states to more easily obtain AK licensure, and vice versa.

SB 53 does not change scope of practice. ANPs and nurse anesthetists will continue to provide the same high quality, safe, accessible care they have provided to Alaskans across the state for 34 years. They will just have a new name: APRN.

Thank you very much for your advocacy on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Laura Sarcone CNM
Co-chair APRN Alliance

Chris Logan CRNA
Co-chair APRN Alliance

Alaska Nurse Practitioner Association



A Meeting Place for Nurse Practitioners in the Last Frontier

February 23, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SB 53

Dear Senator Giessel.

I am writing on behalf of the Alaska Nurse Practitioner Association in support of SB 53, "an act related to advanced practice registered nursing." This bill updates the 34 year old title "advanced nurse practitioner" (ANP) to "advanced practice registered nurse" (APRN) and aligns Alaska statute with a nationwide movement called "The Consensus Model."

Under current Alaska law the title "ANP" includes nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, and certified clinical nurse specialists. Nurse anesthetists are a separate category of clinician. The Consensus Model includes all four specialties under the title "APRN."

The Consensus Model, promulgated by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, seeks uniformity in APRN licensure, accreditation, certification, and education. Uniformity will expedite insurance reimbursement by eliminating confusion about service provider; it will allow APRNs from other states to more easily obtain AK licensure, and vice versa.

SB 53 does not change scope of practice. ANPs, including CNMs, and nurse anesthetists will continue to provide the same high quality, safe, accessible care they have provided to Alaskans across the state for 34 years. They will just have a new name: APRN.

Thank you very much for your advocacy on this important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tracey Wiese".

Tracey Wiese, ANP
President

AKANA

ALASKA ASSOCIATION OF NURSE ANESTHETISTS

C/O ALASKA NURSES ASSOCIATION • 3701 E. TUDOR RD., SUITE 208 • ANCHORAGE, AK 99507

February 22, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Senator Giessel.

I am writing on behalf of the Alaska Association of Nurse Anesthetists in support of SB 53, "an act related to advanced practice registered nursing." This bill updates the 34 year old title "advanced nurse practitioner" (ANP) and nurse anesthetist (NA) to "advanced practice registered nurse" (APRN) and aligns Alaska statute with a nationwide movement called "The Consensus Model."

Under current Alaska law the title "ANP" includes nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, and certified clinical nurse specialists. Nurse anesthetists are a separate category of clinician. The national Consensus Model creates an umbrella title for advanced practice nurses and brings all four specialties under the title "APRN."

The Consensus Model, promulgated by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, seeks uniformity in APRN licensure, accreditation, certification, and education. Uniformity will expedite insurance reimbursement by eliminating confusion about service provider; it will allow APRNs from other states to more easily obtain AK licensure, and vice versa.

Alaska is home to approximately 110 CRNAs. When SB 53 becomes law we will continue to provide the same quality anesthesia care to Alaskan patients, just as we have for decades.

SB 53 does not change scope of practice. Nurse practitioners and nurse anesthetists will continue to provide the same high quality, safe, accessible care they have provided to Alaskans across the state for 34 years. They will just have a new name: APRN.

Thank you very much for your advocacy on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Jeff Worrell, LtC, USAF (retired)
CRNA, MSN

President- Alaska Association of Nurse Anesthetists



March 6, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SB 53

Dear Senator Giessel:

I am writing in support of SB 53, "an act related to advanced practice registered nursing." This bill updates the 34 year old title "advanced nurse practitioner" (ANP) to "advanced practice registered nurse" (APRN) and aligns Alaska statute with a nationwide movement called "The Consensus Model."

Under current Alaska law the title "ANP" includes nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, and certified clinical nurse specialists. Nurse anesthetists are a separate category of clinician. The Consensus Model includes all four specialties under the title "APRN."

The Consensus Model, promulgated by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, seeks uniformity in APRN licensure, accreditation, certification, and education. Uniformity will expedite insurance reimbursement by eliminating confusion about service provider; it will allow APRNs from other states to more easily obtain AK licensure, and vice versa.

SB 53 does not change scope of practice. ANPs and nurse anesthetists will continue to provide the same high quality, safe, accessible care they have provided to Alaskans across the state for 34 years. They will just have a new name: APRN.

Thank you very much for your advocacy on this issue. Please feel free to contact me if you have questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Daniel Nelson".

Daniel Nelson
President, Alaska Pharmacists Association
460 Snowy Owl Lane
Fairbanks, AK 99712
907-347-7220



Alaska Nurses Association
3701 E. Tudor Road, Suite 208
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(907) 274-0827
www.aknurse.org

March 9, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Senator Giessel,

We are writing on behalf of the Alaska Nurses Association in strong support of SB 53: "An Act related to Advanced Practice Registered Nursing." This bill will update the 34-year-old title "advanced nurse practitioner" or "ANP" to "advanced practice registered nurse" or "APRN" and aligns Alaska statute with a national movement called "The Consensus Model."

Under current Alaska law, the title "ANP" includes nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives, and certified clinical nurse specialists. Nurse anesthetists are currently a separate category of clinician. The Consensus Model includes all four advanced practice nursing specialties under the title of "APRN."

The Consensus Model, promulgated by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, seeks uniformity in APRN licensure, accreditation, certification, and education. Uniformity will expedite insurance reimbursement by eliminating confusion over service providers. This uniformity will also boost patient understanding of the APRN role, allowing patients to better participate in their healthcare. It will also allow APRNs from other states to more easily obtain Alaska nursing licensure, and vice versa. Uniformity in licensing means more healthcare providers for Alaska, and increased access for patient care.

SB 53 does not change scope of practice. Alaska's advanced practice registered nurses will continue to provide the same high quality, safe, accessible care they have provided to Alaskans across the state for 34 years; they will just have a new name: APRN.

Once again, we sincerely thank you for your advocacy on this important issue.
Sincerely,

Donna Phillips, BSN, RN
Labor Council Chair
Alaska Nurses Association

Jane Erickson, RN, CCRN
Vice President, Board of Directors
Alaska Nurses Association

Arlene Briscoe, RN-BC
Legislative Chair
Alaska Nurses Association



Alaska Affiliate of the ACNM
P.O. Box 230231
Anchorage, AK 99523-0231
www.alaskamidwives.org

February 23, 2015

Senator Cathy Giessel
State Capitol Room 427
Juneau, AK 99801

RE: SB 53

Dear Senator Giessel.

I am writing on behalf of the Alaska Affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives in support of SB 53, "an act related to advanced practice registered nursing." This bill updates the 34 year old title "advanced nurse practitioner" (ANP) to "advanced practice registered nurse" (APRN) and aligns Alaska statute with a nationwide movement called "The Consensus Model."

Under current Alaska law the title "ANP" includes nurse practitioners, certified nurse-midwives (CNMs), and certified clinical nurse specialists. Nurse anesthetists are a separate category of clinician. The Consensus Model includes all four specialties under the title "APRN."

The Consensus Model, promulgated by the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, seeks uniformity in APRN licensure, accreditation, certification, and education. Uniformity will expedite insurance reimbursement by eliminating confusion about service provider; it will allow APRNs from other states to more easily obtain AK licensure, and vice versa.

Alaska is home to approximately 70 CNMs. In 2013, CNMs attended 31% of vaginal births in the state. When SB 53 becomes law we will continue to launch healthy Alaskan families, just as we have for 34 years.

SB 53 does not change scope of practice. ANPs, including CNMs, and nurse anesthetists will continue to provide the same high quality, safe, accessible care they have provided to Alaskans across the state for 34 years. They will just have a new name: Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN).

Thank you very much for your advocacy on this important issue.

Sincerely,

Heather Palmer, CNM, WHNP 02/23/15

Heather Palmer, CNM, WHNP
President, Alaska Affiliate of the American College of Nurse-Midwives