TO:

Alaska House Labor & Commerce Committee

Representative Zach Fields, Co-Chair Representative Ivy Spohnholz, Co-Chair

FROM:

Wendy L. Monrad, CRNA

Re-Appointment to Board of Nursing – APRN Representative

SUBJECT: Personal Letter of introduction for 4/7/21 confirmation hearing

DATE:

April 6, 2021

Greetings,

I have been re-appointed by Governor Dunleavy to the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) position on the Alaska Board of Nursing (BON). I was confirmed March of 2019, finishing my predecessor's last year of her four-year term. I have enjoyed the last two years of service on this board and look forward to serving the remainder of this current four-year term. This board has made great strides in streamlining nursing regulation while ensuring safe nursing practice in Alaska. We met multiple times in 2020 during the COVID crisis, enacting emergency regulations to ensure nurses were able to care for Alaskans in the midst of the pandemic.

I am a Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) currently employed at the Alaska Native Medical Center (ANMC) in Anchorage. I have been a CRNA for 21 years and a Registered Nurse (RN) for 30 years. I have been an Alaska Resident since 2002. I arrived here on assignment with the United States Air Force (USAF). I separated from the USAF in 2005 after 13 years of service and began working at ANMC. In 2007, I went back on active duty with the United States Public Health Service (USPHS), continuing to work as a CRNA at ANMC. I retired from the USPHS in 2019 after 26 years of government service. I now work at ANMC as a civilian CRNA.

In addition to my years of experience in nursing practice, I also have developed leadership skills through these government agencies and service to my professional organization at both the state (Alaska Association of Nurse Anesthetists - AKANA) and national level (American Association of Nurse Anesthetists - AANA). I also served as a Co-Chief Nurse Anesthetist at ANMC for 10 years. This volunteer position on the BON has been a natural transition for me considering my history of leadership and service.

I am honored to be considered for a second term in this position. Upon confirmation by your committee, I will continue advocating for the interests of the people of Alaska; fully committed to the BON mission: "actively promote and protect the health of the citizens of Alaska through the safe and effective practice of nursing as defined by law".

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to joining you by phone during the hearing on Wednesday. Please feel free to contact me before the hearing if you have specific questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Wendy L. Monrad, CRNA

My Lungs

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