

Testimony in Support of HB 2066 Updating APRN Statutes
House Health and Human Services Committee
February 11, 2019

Chairman Landwehr and members of the Health Committee:

I am a family nurse practitioner practicing since 1997. I've worked in retail health since 2008. Retail health clinics are the clinics located inside of grocery stores and drug stores, and people come there for all kinds of acute and chronic illnesses, immunizations and physicals. They come to us because we are open 7 days a week, and we stay open until 7:30pm during the week, and 5pm on weekends. When families are unable to schedule their children to see their pediatrician, they bring them to us. When workers are unable to go to work because they are ill, they can come straight to our clinic. We get patients back to school and work a day earlier, because they don't have to make an appointment for the following day. So we save the community money and time, and we make our patients very happy.

I have never had to call my collaborating physician. The reason is because I know my limitations, and I practice within my scope. When I recognize that a patient needs a higher level of care, I send them where they need to be. That might be their own physician, the emergency room, or a specialist. But if I am unable to provide for their needs, I know who can. If I feel like I need to call a physician, then it is because I am sending them a patient. It's not because I need them to tell me what to do. I know what I my role is and what I can do.

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