

City of Florence

250 Hwy 101, Florence, OR 97439

www.ci.florence.or.us

March 11, 2019

Oregon Senate
Committee on Health Care
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

RE: Oregon Senate Bill (SB) 136: Removes 10-day supply limitation of prescriptions issued by Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists.

Dear Chair Monnes Anderson and Members of the Committee:

As the Mayor of Florence, Oregon, I am writing to urge you to **SUPPORT SB 136**, which removes the 10-day limitation on prescriptions written by Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists (CRNAs).


Florence is a coastal town with a robust retirement community that relies on CRNAs to provide 100% of the anesthesia and pain management services. Like numerous rural communities, we are currently faced with a continuing shortage of providers who can prescribe Medication Assisted Treatments (MATs) for those suffering from opioid use disorder. CRNAs are pain professionals who have the education, ability and expertise to provide these services. We must remove the 10-day limitation on prescribing privileges to fully empower CRNAs to function within the scope of their education and training, thus bridging this healthcare access gap.

CRNAs are an untapped resource in combating the opioid epidemic. Many healthcare professionals refer patients with chronic pain conditions and opioid use disorders to pain specialists. However, the current 10-day prescription limitation on CRNAs restricts access for patients by not permitting CRNAs to practice to the full extent of their training and education. Additionally, it is important to note that CRNAs are the only group of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses in Oregon with this limitation.

By simply allowing CRNAs to function to the fullest within their scope of practice, you can empower these vital healthcare providers to aid our severely underserved communities.

SUPPORT SB 136 and allow CRNAs to become part of the solution to provide healthcare access to all Oregonians!

Respectfully,


Joe Henry, Mayor

Public Works
989 Spruce St.
(541) 997-4106

**City Manager/
City Recorder**
(541) 997-3437

**Community Development:
Planning & Building**
(541) 997-8237

**Finance/
Utility Billing**
(541) 997-3436

Justice Center
900 Greenwood St.
(541) 997-3515

Florence Events Center
715 Quince St.
(541) 997-1994

