

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 Director of Pharmacy Services and Patient Safety Director for Peace Harbor Hospital, 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).

As the Pharmacy director at a rural critical access hospital it is apparent that there is a critical shortage of providers who can prescribe Medication Assisted Treatments (MATs), I witness first hand those suffering from opioid use disorder who have limited or no access to those providers who can prescribe MATs. CRNAs are pain professionals who have the education, ability and expertise to provide these services. I support **SB 136** as it will remove the 10-day limitation on prescribing privileges and 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,



Dianna Pimlott, Oregon Registered Pharmacist, B.S.Pharm, M.H.A.

Florence, Oregon