Dear Legislator……..,

I am writing to bring your attention to **A1760 the “Consumer Access to Health Care Act”.**  This bill will eliminate barriers to Advanced Practice Nurses’ (APNs) practice by removing the “joint protocol/collaborative agreement” requirement with physicians. It is important to emphasize that this bill will allow APNs to continue to provide high quality, affordable care to NJ residents without the restriction of a joint protocol document which inhibits access to the APN delivered healthcare to New Jersey residents.

As a NJ APN, I am contacting you today to ask for your support for A1760 the “Consumer Access to Health Care Act” and to have this bill as a legislative priority in the current legislative session. A recent policy analysis revealed that 16% of New Jersey adults reported to have no usual place for healthcare and 21% do not have a personal primary care provider. These statistics are among the worst in all states in the Northeast. In addition, 13 out of 21 counties in NJ have a primary care provider shortage. APNs can help to fill this shortage. Therefore, removing barriers and improving access to APNs is essential to improving healthcare in NJ.

By removing this barrier, NJ APNS will be able to practice at the top of their education, license and certification. Continuing the “joint protocol” or “collaborating agreement” with physicians is a barrier to APN practice that prevents our New Jersey citizens from accessing the health care they need to attain optimal health.

Let us improve the access to care for all of our New Jersey Community members. Please feel free to contact me if you would like further information.

Sincerely,

Your Contact Info