

Wayne A. Smith President & CEO April 27, 2021

The Honorable Melissa Minor-Brown 411 Legislative Avenue Dover, DE 19901

## **RE: Support for HB 141 APRN Compact Companion Bill**

Dear Representative Minor-Brown,

Thank you for being the lead House sponsor of House Bill 141, the companion bill to the Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) Compact bill (HB 21). DHA supports this important bill.

Like many licensure compacts, the APRN Compact legislation must be adopted as is, without tweaks or changes that tie it in to the practices of the adopting state. HB 141 plays an important role in aligning the Delaware Board of Nursing statute with the APRN Compact to advance APRN practice through elimination of barriers and improving access to care for Delawareans. This bill and the APRN Compact grant full practice authority with licensure and remove the onerous requirement for the Division of Professional Regulation to maintain a record of a collaborative practice agreement on file for licensed APRNs. With nearly 2500 active APRNs currently licensed in Delaware, we cannot afford to continue with ineffective and unfounded barriers to practice in place. DHA supports HB 141 as an additional step to seamlessly join Delaware as an APRN Compact state, with the goal of providing greater access to proven high-quality care for patients.

DHA is pleased to support HB 141 and looks forward to working with you and the members of the General Assembly to advance this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Wayne A. Smith President & CEO

Alfred I. duPont Hospital for Children Mark Mumford, Executive Vice President Chief Executive, Nemours Delaware Valley Operations

Bayhealth
Terry Murphy,
President & CEO

Beebe Healthcare David A. Tam, MD, MBA, President & CEO

ChristianaCare
Janice E. Nevin,
MD, MPH
President & CEO

TidalHealth Nanticoke
Penny Short, MSM, BSN,
RN
President & CEO

Saint Francis Healthcare Brandon S. Harvath, President & COO

Wilmington Veterans Affairs Medical Center Vincent Kane Director

Delaware Healthcare Association Wayne A. Smith President & CEO

DHA represents hospitals and health care delivery systems in Delaware and advocates for policies that create an environment enabling every Delawarean to be as healthy as they can be.