Sample Email

Subject Line: Please sign-on as a co-sponsor to LRB-0429/1, *The APRN Modernization Act*

Dear (Your state Assembly Representative and/or Senator)
(Find your State Assemblyperson and your State Senator: Go to: http://legis.wisconsin.gov/ On the right side of the home page you will find a section *Who are my Legislators?* Enter your home address and your legislators contact information is provided.

As a (Insert your role, i.e., Family Nurse Practitioner, nurse educator, staff nurse) I am writing to urge your support for (Assembly and Senate Bill number), *The APRN Modernization Act*.

This bill, sponsored by Reps. Rohrkaste and Subek and Sens.LeMahieu, Ringhand and Testin updates decades-old language for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs): Nurse Practitioners, Certified Nurse Midwives, Clinical Nurse Specialists and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists.

The National Council of State Boards of Nursing has proposed this model legislation, and it has passed in 22 states so far, as well as the District of Columbia, and the V.A. system. Wisconsin is one of very few states that has proposed statutory language that includes all four types of APRNs.

This bill: Pick the language you would like to insert

- Provides licensing for APRNs and describes the strict educational/experience requirements to obtain a license
- Grants title protection for each APRN specialty
- Sets the stage for future APRN Compact agreements with other states
- Standardizes our professional titles to be consistent with the other states
- Gives the Wisconsin Board of Nursing greater authority in regulating APRNs and APRN graduate schools
- Wisconsin State Statute Chapter 441 will be modernized to reflect a national consensus model being adopted across the country. To modernize Wisconsin's Nurse Practice Act, State Statue Chapter 441; the following principles will be applied:
- Add a definition for Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)
- Provide formal licensure for advanced practice registered nurses (APRN), recognizing the four different practice roles listed above
- Repeal 441.15 – Nurse Midwife Practice Act
- Repeal 441.16 – Prescription Privileges for Advanced Practice Nurses
- Identify specific criteria to be licensed as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse:
    - national board certification
    - Master's Degree or higher in an APRN role; and
    - graduate from a school of nursing with national accreditation.
    - Create the conditions for an APRN to prescribe
- Provide technical amendments to replace Advanced Practice Nurse Prescriber (APNP) with APRN.

Your/Nursing's goals:

- Protect the public with truth and transparency in APRN titles
- Update antiquated language to reflect the APRN practice and responsibilities that already currently exist
- Eliminate unnecessary barriers that have proven to provide no value to the delivery and safety of care
- Set a high standard of safety in caring for our patients

(Add personal information here about your role/ what you do/how you provide safe, quality, accessible care to your patients in his/her district)

Sample ideas you could also add to your personal situation

- Wisconsin's Nurse Practice Act, State Statute 441, is relatively silent when it comes to defining the role and responsibility of advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs).
- Legislation recognized advanced practice registered nurses in 1995 when subsets of these practitioners' were granted prescriptive authority. Wisconsin State Statute 441.16 was created to allow advanced practice nurses to prescribe medications under the conditions defined. APRNs practice beyond the realm of prescriber work. Clarity regarding their legal definition and role are needed.
- According to the a report of the U.S. Federal Trade Commission, APRNs play a critical role in alleviating provider shortages and expanding access to health care services for medically underserved populations.
- Currently in Wisconsin, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses cannot provide pharmacologic-related care without having a documented collaborative relationship with a physician. This has become an artificial barrier effectively giving one group of health care professionals the ability to restrict access to the market by another, competing group of health care professionals, thereby denying health care consumers the benefits of greater competition and access to care.

Wisconsin's population is aging. The workforce predictions from Wisconsin Hospital Association show a dire need for health care providers now--and worsening in the near future. APRNs have proven themselves ready and able to fill those needs, particularly in rural and urban underserved areas. APRNs provide access to care at no added cost to the state, no delay in the benefit to the consumer or the state, and are a solution that has a track record of 50 years of success.

Please sign on as co-sponsor, and support improved access to quality health care for your constituents. Thank you for your time in this important matter!

(signature)
(printed name, i.e. credential RN, APNP)
(Address)