

SB 145 supports meeting the health care demands for Wisconsin's rural and at-risk populations. This is why it is important for Governor Evers to sign the APRN Modernization Act.

SB 145 is a bipartisan bill that will empower highly educated and experienced Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) to obtain, through state licensure, full practice authority. This will support greater access to care and treatment for Wisconsinites.

Wisconsin's rural and at-risk populations benefit from receiving health services that are provided by certified nurse-midwives, certified registered nurse anesthetists, clinical nurse specialists, and nurse practitioners.

Wisconsin's APRNs continue to experience barriers to practice due to a rule that requires physician collaboration. SB 145 will remove this unnecessary rule.

- APRNs have always collaborated with members of the health care team including their physician colleagues. SB 145 has language that the APRN needs to consult or refer with a provider when the care of their patient exceeds their scope of practice.
- APRNs are leaving Wisconsin to practice in our neighboring states and others where they have full practice authority (FPA).
 - The current situation in Western Wisconsin is resulting in APRNs leaving Wisconsin to work in Minnesota. The advantage for relocating to Minnesota is that APRNs have full practice authority. Wisconsin is an island when it comes to the surrounding states that trust APRN competency to practice.
- States are growing their healthcare workforce in rural areas and for at-risk populations have one common denominator, it is the presence of APRNs providing care. Examples include:
 - o Arizona
 - NP workforce doubled across the state and grew 70% of services in rural areas within 10 years of adopting FPA.
 - o North Dakota
 - NP workforce grew 83% and services within 6 years of adopting FPA.
 - o Nevada
 - APRN workforce grew 34% of services within 3 years of adopting FPA.
 - Nebraska
 - NP workforce grew and resulted in the establishment <u>20 state-designated</u> primary care medically underserved areas within 5 years of adopting FPA.

Please contact Governor Evers and let him know that by signing SB 145, he is supporting increase access to high quality and economical health care for Wisconsinites.

