

January 20, 2015

## TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF SB69

Thank you for scheduling a hearing to hear testimony on the APRN Practice Bills SB69. My name is Jamie Harrington and I am a Certified Nurse Midwife and Family Nurse Practitioner. I have personally been affected by the current legislation requiring a collaborative practice agreement. I am unable to practice to the full extent of my education as a Certified Nurse Midwife because physicians in the Wichita area refuse to sign collaborative practice agreements. These “medical politics” do nothing but decrease access to safe and quality healthcare for thousands of women and their families. Consultation and collaboration with physicians is already a part of our everyday practice and abolishing a written requirement for collaboration will not change how we care for patients alongside physicians.

Passage of the current APRN bill will eliminate the barrier of finding a physician who is willing to sign a collaborative agreement. Removal of the collaboration agreement will also increase the ability of APRNs to practice to the full extent of their education, make health care more cost effective and increase access to underserved areas.

Senator, thank you for listening and for your support for APRNs and Certified Nurse Midwives to have Full Practice Authority!

Sincerely,

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