

Testimony re: **SB 112**, CRNA Modernization / Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee / Presented by Brian Fleeman / February 16, 2022

Members of the Senate Health Committee,

I am writing in as a proponent of SB 112. My name is Brian Fleeman, and I am the owner and operator of Salt City Anesthesia providing anesthesia and pain management services in Reno County, Kansas. With over 10 years of education and training and 19 years' experience, I am unable to fully care for the patients requiring these services. This is due to the Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) Practice Act being written in 1986 and not keeping up on the current training and education that CRNAs receive. The current minimum education and training requirements for CRNAs include:

- 4-year Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)
- 1-year **minimum** intensive care nursing spent vigilantly monitoring patients for any physiologic change (the bulk of what we do during an anesthetic)
- 3-year Doctorate in Nurse Anesthesia Practice (DNAP).

Additional optional training:

- 1-year Non-Surgical Pain Management (NSPM) fellowship, Pediatric Anesthesia fellowship, Cardiac Anesthesia fellowship.

When the Practice Act was written it was a master's degree program and no fellowships existed.

In 2003 the Governor opted out of the federal physician supervision language allowing state law on the oversight of CRNAs. For over 19 years CRNAs have been providing services throughout Kansas under this opt-out ruling. However, our Practice Act has yet to be updated to reflect the needs of Kansans. CRNAs do not have prescriptive authority, cannot obtain a DEA license, and are limited on providing full anesthesia and pain management services under the current statute.

SB 112 would allow for CRNAs to practice to the full extent of their training and education and allow Kansans better access to anesthesia and pain management services.

Thank you for your consideration,



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