

Senator Lee and Health Services committee members,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a few brief comments today. My name is Jenna Herman and I am the North Dakota State Representative for the American Association of Nurse Practitioners (AANP), a North Dakota Nurse Practitioner Association (NDNPA) officer in that same role, the Family Nurse Practitioner Program Director at the University of Mary, an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) providing healthcare to the rural areas of North Dakota, and a preceptor.

The NDNPA and the University of Mary support all of the Center for Nursing's Policy Briefs and recommended bills. In particular, I would like to remark on the APRN Preceptor Reimbursement Policy Brief. As educators, we want to provide the best clinical experiences possible for our students to prepare them for their role as medical professionals as they will directly influence health care outcomes of their patients. As a clinician and preceptor, a variety of constraints such as an impact on productivity influences my decision to precept a student.

At the University of Mary, we have tried several avenues to provide incentive for our preceptors including library privileges, recognition in our newsletter, and an annual award for outstanding preceptors. However, the tax incentive as Policy Brief would help attract additional qualified preceptors and ease the burden for current preceptors for APRN students. The more APRN students that do their clinical in North Dakota, the more likely they are to stay and practice after graduation, which in turn would help with the ongoing provider shortage here.

Thank you.