



Students for Patient Advocacy Nationwide

1702 Clifton Road Suite 1650
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www.spanationwide.org

November 22, 2025

The Honorable Jennifer Gross, Chair
Ohio House Medicaid Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, Columbus, OH, 43215

Re: House Bill 508 (Gross) – Support

Dear Chairman Gross and members of the Ohio State Assembly Health Committee,

Students for Patient Advocacy Nationwide (SPAN) appreciates the intent of and strongly supports House Bill 508, which seeks to streamline practice requirements for Ohio's Advanced Practice Registered Nurses by allowing them to practice independently. This will eventually have a ripple effect, as this bill has the potential to increase access to care and address provider shortages by allowing APRNs to perform functions restricted to physicians.

For the reasons listed below, we strongly support this bill and wish for it to succeed.

- **Expands Access in Rural and Underserved Communities:** Ohio faces a significant provider shortage, especially outside urban or suburban areas. [The Ohio Association of Advanced Practice Nurses](#) states that in many rural counties, these APRNs are crucial in ensuring that patients have access to care. Requiring a contract with a physician leads to fewer clinics open, directly affecting our rural constituents here in Ohio. By allowing full practice after 5000 hours in clinical settings, HB 508 will boost capacity, benefitting these communities.
- **Helps Support Cost-Effective, High-Quality Care:** In states that have removed these contracts for APRNs, they report equivalent or better outcomes for primary and preventative care, alongside cost savings and a lower administrative burden. [A 2020 study in the Journal of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners](#) found that independently practicing nurse practitioners improved access, and reduced unnecessary hospitalizations. A 2021 study in the same journal finds through their analysis of using nurse practitioners at a larger scale, it could save government agencies such as the Department of Veterans Affairs nearly \$19 million per year. Ohio's rural and uninsured populations stand to gain the most under this bill because it expands the number of cost-efficient providers able to deliver high-quality care.



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For all of these reasons, SPAN strongly supports House Bill 508. This bill follows a bipartisan trend, promoting fiscal responsibility while expanding patient access and removing unnecessary burdens and barriers for those who need healthcare the most. This bill does not compromise safety either; it helps make care more efficient. By passing, [we would join just under 30 states in modernizing their healthcare system](#). SPAN urges the strong passage of this bill.

Sincerely,

Arnav Goyal

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Students for Patient Advocacy Nationwide (SPAN)