

NEBRASKA

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DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Jim Pillen, Governor

August 23, 2024

The Honorable Ben Hansen
Health and Human Services Committee
Nebraska Legislature
P.O. Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Chairman Hansen:

The Department of Health and Human Services' statement on the explanation of effectiveness of the Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) license, below, reflects its sole views. The question has also been sent to the Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) and its response will be forwarded should they choose to opine.

APRN-CRNAs provide anesthesia service across the entire state, particularly in critical care access hospitals, but also in larger institutions. If this occupation is no longer regulated, the state would lose a large group of providers of anesthesia and pain management services which would limit the public's ability to access this type of care.

There is one set of regulations that governs all four APRN groups. Each specific APRN group has a statute unique to the group. The care provided by this occupation is available across the state and is based on standards of education and practice. The ability of the public to access this care and the low number of disciplines are indications of the effectiveness of its regulation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy A. Tesmer, MD".

Timothy A. Tesmer, MD
Chief Medical Officer