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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

Senator Lindsey O. Graham

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Fax Transmittal Sheet

To: Gov. Haley

Fax #: 1-803-734-5161 Date: _____

From: Alice Cooper - CONSTITUENT SVS.

RE: Adam Bude Pages to follow: 3

Comments/Notes: Please note the Senator's interest and provide assistance. Thank
you

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LINDSEY O. GRAHAM
SOUTH CAROLINA



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UNITED STATES SENATE

October 20, 2015

The Honorable Nikki Haley
Governor
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201-3756

Dear Governor Haley:

The attached letter concerns an issue outside my official jurisdiction. Therefore, as a courtesy to my constituent, I am sending this correspondence to your attention.

Thank you for your attention to this matter, and I ask that you please respond directly to the individual.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "L. Graham", written over a horizontal line.

Lindsey O. Graham
United States Senator

LOG/ac

Enclosure

ADAM M. GUDE

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October 16, 2015

The Honorable Lindsey Graham
McMillan Federal Building
401 West Evans Street, Suite 111
Florence, SC 29501

Dear Senator:

My name is Adam Gude and I am a Francis Marion University nurse practitioner student. I will be graduating in December and as I get closer to assuming my role as an advanced practice nurse in South Carolina I feel it is my indelible responsibility to pursue some legislative change in terms of my profession.

Advanced practice nurses in South Carolina face many restrictions to practice that negatively impact healthcare by limiting available resources. South Carolina has many endemic rural populations that are medically underserved. By removing barriers to advanced practice and promoting independent practice will foster improved access to care. Ultimately nurse practitioners should be responsible for our actions under our own independent licensure.

As a healthcare providers nurse practitioners in South Carolina face many barriers to practice that include limitations in prescriptive authority, supervisory versus collaborative physician practice affiliations, and limitations in reimbursement. Outdated state regulations, institutional policies, and misconceptions about provider preparations prevent advanced practice nurses from practicing to the full extent of their education. There is no evidence that physician supervision adds value to nurse practitioner patient outcomes.

Nurse practitioners provide a cost effective means of healthcare coverage. Evidence emanating from a wide body of literature has demonstrated that nurse practitioners provide safe, competent, and cost effective care. Advanced practice nurses increase access to care thereby reducing hospitalizations, and emergency department visits. Cost effectiveness can be further measured through reduced costs in payer systems, reduced emergency department use, lower medication use in patients with chronic disease, shorter hospital stays, improved morbidity rates, and improved patient outcomes.

As a constituent, it is important to note that these independent nurse practitioner models have proven effective in other states. In order to promote retention it is imperative that legislation works to be progressive in an attempt to attract healthcare providers to South Carolina. Having lived and worked in other states with less restrictive practice makes it difficult to seek employment in a state that seems to devalue the profession. However, I am optimistic that change towards independent practice will slowly permeate South Carolina. I feel it is important to take an active political role by informing legislators about the pertinent issues in an attempt to endorse a constructive evolution.

As my acting legislator, I challenge you to imbue positive changes to advanced practice by promoting independent practice for nurse practitioners. I appreciate your time and thank you for the opportunity to voice my concerns. I have attached my reference citations for your review. Please respond to confirm receipt.

Thank you again for your time.

Respectfully,



Adam M. Gude

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