



ALLIANCE for  
CONNECTED CARE

February 17, 2022

The Honorable George Barker  
Chair, Subcommittee on Health Professions  
Senate Education and Health Committee  
Pocahontas Building, Room E619  
900 East Main St  
Richmond, VA 23219

**Re: House Bill 1245 - Support**

Dear Chair Barker:

The Alliance for Connected Care (the Alliance) is an advocacy organization dedicated to facilitating the delivery of high-quality care using connected care technology. Our members are leading health care and technology companies from across the health care spectrum, representing insurers, health systems and technology innovators, and our Advisory Board includes more than 40 patient and provider groups.

We are writing to express our support for House Bill 1245. This legislation would repeal the sunset provision included in a bill that passed in 2021 ([House Bill 1737](#)) that reduced the number of years of full-time clinical experience a nurse practitioner must have to be eligible to practice without a written or electronic practice agreement from five years to two years. By reducing the transition to practice requirement for nurse practitioners (NPs) to two years on a permanent basis, House Bill 1245 would allow NPs to use the full extent of their education and training to provide care to patients.

The Alliance believes NPs should be able to perform at the top of their license in order to expand access and eliminate barriers to health care. As a telehealth advocacy organization, the Alliance believes NPs are an essential component to expanding access to care through the use of telehealth, especially for patients who live in rural or underserved communities, or areas experiencing provider shortages, who may not have access to the services they need where they reside. NPs have also been critical to expanding access to care throughout the pandemic.

Allowing NPs to practice at the top of their licenses means allowing them to use all of their education and training to care for patients. Removing restrictions on NPs to allow them to practice to the full extent of their education and training would increase consumer access to health care, address persisting barriers to care for vulnerable populations and/or patients living in provider shortage areas, and reduce unnecessary health care costs.

We hope the Subcommittee on Health Professions will support House Bill 1245 this session. Thank you for your consideration - we look forward to working with you on this important effort. Please contact Casey Osgood at 203-536-5865 or [casey.osgood@connectwithcare.org](mailto:casey.osgood@connectwithcare.org) with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Krista Drobac". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Krista Drobac  
Executive Director, Alliance for Connected Care