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DIVISION OF PROFESSIONAL REGULATION

## **ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES-DRAFT**

The Advanced Practice Registered Nurse Subcommittee held a meeting on January 3, 2019 at 4:30 p.m., in Conference Room A, Cannon Building, 861 Silver Lake Boulevard, Dover, DE.

**PRESENT:** Ronald Castaldo, CRNA; Maryanne Holzapfel, RPh; Stephen Lawless, MD

**ABSENT:** None

**GUESTS:** None

**PRESIDING:** Ronald Castaldo, CRNA

**STAFF:** Pamela Zickafoose, Executive Director, Delaware Board of Nursing  
David Mangler, Director, Division of Professional Regulation

**CALL TO ORDER:** Dr. Castaldo called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m.

**REVIEW OF MINUTES:** There were no minutes for review as this was the first meeting of this subcommittee.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### Report to General Assembly

Dr. Castaldo explained the purpose of this subcommittee was to draft a report to the General Assembly which was required by 2015 legislation. Dr. Zickafoose read a copy of the language specifying the requirements of the report which is to be sent to the Division of Research as well as the General Assembly. She stated the report should be specific to one item in the bill which states "the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline and the Board of Nursing shall provide to the General Assembly, with a copy to the Division of Research, a report and recommendation regarding the effectiveness of §1932(f)(4)b. within four years of the date of the enactment of this bill." It was noted the numbering of the language changed and is currently in §1934(f)(4)b. This says "When an APRN who has been granted independent practice comes before the Board of Nursing for discipline related to a deviation from the standard of care, the Board of Nursing's decision must be approved by the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline.

Mr. Mangler added historical information on the bill. Independent practice data was compiled by staff and shared with committee members. To date there have been 126 independent applications

approved and no disciplinary actions. Members reviewed a draft report prepared by Dr. Castaldo, Dr. Zickafoose, and Jennifer Singh, DAG. Revisions were recommended and Dr. Zickafoose will update the draft. Dr. Lawless offered to take the final report to the Board of Medical Licensure and Discipline (BMLD) for approval and signature, and Dr. Castaldo commented the APRN Committee would review it at their next meeting. Mr. Mangler commented the signatures should come from the president of both boards. Once approved and signed, Mr. Mangler will distribute the report to the Division of Research and General Assembly. He also described the process anticipated for the report. It is possible this may be on a future agenda where we may need to answer questions. Members discussed the recommendations in the report and decided statutory language should be amended. A new bill will be drafted.

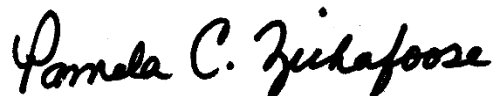
**OTHER BUSINESS (for discussion only):** Dr. Lawless commented the Board of Nursing may want to remove the pharmacology continuing education (CE) requirement for licensure as this could be a barrier to practice issue that is a higher standard for nursing as compared to medical licensure. Members commented the APRNs must maintain national certification which requires CE and supports the removal of the CE requirement. He also mentioned the time and distance requirements from CMS are being reviewed and there is potential federal funding based on the data. Mr. Mangler discussed the new online licensure system and the capability to collect data. The system is in development with a go-live date of October 2019.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** There was no public comment.

**NEXT MEETING:** TBD if needed

**ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pamela C. Zickafoose". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P' and 'Z'.

Pamela C. Zickafoose, EdD, MSN, RN, NE-BC, CNE, FRE  
Executive Director, Delaware Board of Nursing