KEARNEY REGIONAL
Medical Center

December 2, 2022

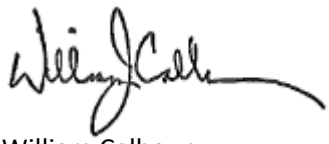
Dear Technical Review Committee Members,

On behalf of Kearney Regional Medical Center (KRMC), I want to take this opportunity to share information that may shed light on the hardships our organization faces due to the ongoing shortage of anesthesia providers and how it impacts our residents. This letter is not intended to offer a position of support or opposition to the application to license Certified Anesthesiologist Assistants (CAAs), but rather share our concerns.

KRMC has been dealing with anesthesia provider shortages for years. It has proven difficult to recruit new CRNAs into our organization and we have relied heavily on our existing staff and depend on locum tenens to fill critical shifts. Because of the difficulty in filling positions, it has required changes to procedural services scheduling which directly impacts patient care. To compensate for the shortages, our medical center has been forced to rely on locum tenens anesthesia care which comes at an exorbitant price. It is my hope that the committee understands that the status quo is not a sustainable model, and that the shortage of anesthesia providers is negatively impacting the health of Nebraskans.

Thank you for the opportunity to share our medical center's experience as it relates to the application to license CAAs. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me via email: bill.calhoun@bryanhealth.org.

Sincerely,



William Calhoun,
CEO, Kearney Regional Medical Center