



Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health
Credentialing Review Program
Attn: Technical Review Committee

RE: Support for the Certified Nurse-Midwife 407 Application

Dear Members of the Technical Review Committee,

On behalf of the Nebraska Nurses Association (NNA), we are pleased to support the Certified Nurse-Midwife (CNM) 407 application.

As Nebraska's statewide professional nursing organization, NNA supports policies that allow qualified nurses to practice to the full extent of their education, clinical preparation, national certification, and licensure. Certified Nurse-Midwives are advanced practice registered nurses who play an important role in expanding access to maternity and women's healthcare services across Nebraska.

Our state continues to face serious maternal healthcare workforce challenges, particularly in rural communities where labor and delivery services have declined and families often travel long distances to obtain care. Nebraska benefits when experienced, highly trained healthcare professionals are able to fully contribute within collaborative healthcare systems and help meet the needs of patients and communities.

Strengthening the nursing workforce at every level strengthens Nebraska's entire healthcare system. It helps support hospitals and maternity services, improves access to care, and helps Nebraska families remain healthy and thrive in their own communities.

Certified Nurse-Midwives have long been part of Nebraska's nursing workforce and provide care in hospitals, clinics, and community settings throughout the country. The proposed statutory changes represent a reasonable and thoughtful effort to better align Nebraska law with contemporary nursing education, national certification standards, and current healthcare delivery models.

NNA believes strong nursing policy should support patient access, workforce sustainability, professional accountability, and high standards for education and licensure. We believe this

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proposal is consistent with those goals and will help strengthen access to maternity and women's healthcare services for Nebraska families.

Thank you for your consideration of this application and for your service on behalf of the people of Nebraska.

Sincerely,

Blake K. Smith MSN, RN, FADLN, FAAN

President

Nebraska Nurses Association

Megan Lowery, MSN-Ed, RN

Executive Director

Nebraska Nurses Association

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