



Dear Members of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services,

I am reaching out to express my concern regarding the current Nebraska Medical Radiography Practice Act, which does not include nurse practitioners (NPs) as licensed providers for performing radiographic procedures.

In my practice, I rely heavily on the expertise and support of nurse practitioners, especially in rural and smaller hospital settings where resources and personnel may be limited. These mid-level providers play a crucial role in delivering timely and efficient care to our patients. One significant example is during fracture reductions, where real-time imaging feedback, such as fluoroscopy, is essential for ensuring proper alignment and successful outcomes.

The exclusion of NPs from performing radiographic procedures, such as operating fluoroscopy, presents a significant challenge. In many cases, the availability of qualified personnel to perform these tasks is limited, and delays in treatment can adversely affect patient care and outcomes. Additionally, during surgical procedures, fluoroscopy is often required for precise positioning and assessment before and during surgery, tasks in which nurse practitioners are instrumental.

By allowing NPs to perform these functions, we can enhance the quality of care, improve efficiency, and ensure that patients in rural and underserved areas receive the same level of care as those in more urban settings. The inclusion of NPs as licensed providers under the Nebraska Medical Radiography Practice Act will enable them to fully utilize their skills within their scope of practice, ultimately benefiting both healthcare providers and patients.

I urge the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services to consider amending the current regulations to include NPs as authorized providers for radiographic procedures. This change would reflect the evolving landscape of healthcare delivery and acknowledge the critical role that mid-level providers play in our healthcare system.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Johnston".

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