



March 10, 2023

Karen C. Lyon, PhD, MBA, APRN-CNS, NEA  
Executive Director  
Louisiana State Board of Nursing  
7373 Perkins Road  
Baton Rouge, LA 70810  
[lyonk@lsbn.state.la.us](mailto:lyonk@lsbn.state.la.us)

**RE: Proposed Rulemaking at LAC 46:XLVII.4513**

Dear Dr. Lyon,

The Louisiana Rural Health Association (LRHA) is pleased to offer support of the proposed rulemaking published by the Louisiana State Board of Nursing (LSBN) regarding LAC 46:XLVII.4513.

LRHA recognizes that Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) in Louisiana are dedicated and capable professionals who are often the primary care providers for our rural residents. LRHA shares the LSBN goal of improving access to care and health outcomes for our citizens. We also acknowledge that Louisiana consistently ranks 50th for healthcare outcomes, due in part to lack of access to care, especially in our rural areas.

LRHA believes that the removal of unnecessary regulatory barriers through the the above mentioned rulemaking will increase patient access to care for choronic and intractable pain and obesity by allowing APRNs to prescribe controlled substances within their existing clinically appropriate prescriptive authority.

LRHA thanks LSBN for the opportunity to comment on this proposed rulemaking. If you would like additional information, please contact Denaé Hebert at [dhebert@lrha.org](mailto:dhebert@lrha.org) or 337.366.5915.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Denaé", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Denaé M. Hebert  
Executive Director  
Louisiana Rural Health Association