



Committee: Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee

Bill: House Bill 55 - Health Occupations - Nurse Anesthetists - Drug Authority and Collaboration

Hearing Date: March 23, 2022

Position: Support

The Maryland Nurses Association (MNA) supports *House Bill 55 – Health Occupations – Nurse Anesthetists – Drug Authority and Collaboration*. The bill creates parameters for certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNA) to prescribe medications for their patients during the postoperative period.

CRNAs, just as other advanced practice registered nurses (APRN), should be able to prescribe medications. Their clinical education includes the coursework needed to be a safe and effective prescriber. In some settings, they are the primary point of contact with patients for anesthesia services. It is inefficient when CRNAs cannot directly prescribe to their patients and unnecessarily delay care. Patients deserve and need a more seamless health care system.

We ask for a favorable report on this legislation. If we can provide additional information, please contact Scott Tiffin at stiffin@policypartners.net.