

## SUPPORT

### Oral Testimony for Delegate Cullison's HB 278 Health Occupations - CNS Prescribing Health and Government Operations Committee Hearing Feb 22, 2023

Madam Chair, Madam Vice Chair, and members of the committee:

My name is Claudia Tilley and I am a Clinical Nurse Specialist with 27 years of experience in nursing. I am the Patient Education Specialist and Diabetes Educator for University of Maryland Shore Regional Health which provides healthcare to five counties on the eastern shore.

Shore Regional Health has only three endocrinology providers who serve the entire five county region. There are times when they are consulted for a hospitalized patient with diabetes. This requires one of the providers, who has a busy patient schedule, to make time to provide the consult. Occasionally, this takes time which may delay their expert recommendations or even delay patient discharge from the hospital.

There are other times where I have been told by some hospitalists that they await my consult for recommendations on glucose management. I frequently recommend lab work such as A1c, medication or insulin changes, prescriptions for medical supplies such as glucose meters, and so on. With prescribing authority I could place these orders at the time of my consult, rather than await another provider to stop what they are doing to place the order after my consult, delaying care.

Diabetes is the 6<sup>th</sup> leading cause of death in our state and Dorchester County has the highest rate of diabetes in our state. Patients with complicated diabetes have uncontrolled blood sugar which lead to other problems such as neuropathy, retinopathy, chronic wounds, kidney disease, heart attack or stroke. They are strongly encouraged to see an endocrinology provider to improve their outcomes, however, it can take 2-4 months to get an appointment.

**As a CNS prescriber I believe I can help fill the gaps in care for our patients with diabetes and improve their outcomes. I urge you to vote favorably for House Bill 278 Clinical Nurse Specialist Prescribing.**

Sincerely,

*Claudia Tilley MSN, RN, APRN-CNS, AGCNS-BC*  
Patient Education Specialist & Diabetes Educator  
University of Maryland Shore Regional Health  
219 S. Washington Street Easton MD 21601  
Email: [ctilley@umm.edu](mailto:ctilley@umm.edu)