



The Nurse Practitioner Association New York State

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MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

S.3567 (Hannon)/A.834 (Gunther)

An act to require the director of the classification and compensation division of the civil service department to establish various classifications for nurse practitioners

The Nurse Practitioner Association New York State (“NPA”) is the only statewide professional association of nurse practitioners (“NPs”) in New York, nearly 20,000 of who practice throughout New York State. The NPA and its members are committed to maintaining the highest professional standards for nurse practitioners, and ensuring the greatest quality care for health care consumers. Our organization provides continuing education programs, assists in NP preparation, and advocates with respect to legislative and regulatory issues which affect nurse practitioners and the patients they serve. The NPA strongly supports S.3567 (Hannon)/A.834 (Gunther), which would require the New York State Civil Service Department to create classifications for nurse practitioners working in State employment, proportional to the NPs’ education, experience, duties and certifications, as well as developing corresponding salary grade allocation of such positions.

Nurse Practitioners are advanced practice registered nurses educated at the Masters and Doctoral levels. These professionals are authorized to independently diagnose illness and physical conditions and perform therapeutic and corrective measures, order tests, prescribe medications, devise and immunizing agents, and refer patients to other health care providers. More and more frequently, NPs are the primary care provider of choice for many New Yorkers, both in private and government practice settings. NPs offer quality healthcare services through a holistic delivery model.

Too often, NPs are unable to advance in State service, due to the current lack of specific civil service employment classifications commensurate with their experience, education, and clinical expertise. Enacting this legislation would enhance the State’s ability to recruit and retain highly qualified professionals to serve in government health facilities and programs throughout the State.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the NPA strongly supports S.3567 (Hannon)/A.834 (Gunther).