

NEBRASKA

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DEPT. OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES



Jim Pillen, Governor

August 23, 2024

The Honorable Ben Hansen
Health and Human Services Committee
Nebraska Legislature
P.O. Box 94604
Lincoln, NE 68509

Dear Chairman Hansen:

The Department of Health and Human Services' statement on the explanation of effectiveness of the temporary Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM) license, below, reflects its sole views. The question has also been sent to the Board of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) and its response will be forwarded should they choose to opine.

APRN-CNMs practice across the state in both large and small communities. A temporary APRN-CNM license is only issued when an applicant has not submitted all application requirements to practice, such as fingerprints, or results from a credentialing examination, but has a job ready and waiting for the applicant to practice. The temporary permit is time limited to allow the applicant to practice while they complete the permanent application to obtain their license. Loss of these providers would further limit access by the public to primary care services for women both for childbirth and for other maternal and gynecological services. If this type of license type is no longer available, the state would lose a group of qualified specialized providers who would be unable to provide childbirth and maternal and gynecological services while waiting for their permanent credential, limiting the public's ability to access this type of care, especially in smaller communities where there is a limited number of providers.

There is one set of regulations that governs all four APRN groups effectively. Each specific APRN group has a statute unique to the group. The care provided by this occupation is available across the state and is based on standards of education and practice. The ability of the public to access this care and the low number of disciplines are indications of the effectiveness of its regulation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Timothy A. Tesmer, MD".

Timothy A. Tesmer, MD
Chief Medical Officer