[members of the Arizona Legislature committee of reference]:

Advanced practice registered nurses (APRN) are a vital part of the health system of the United States. They are registered nurses educated at Masters or Doctoral level for practice in a specific role and with a defined patient population to provide basic and specialty healthcare services in a wide variety of settings. APRNs are prepared by education and certification to assess, diagnose, and manage patient problems, order and interpret tests and consult with other members of the healthcare team as the condition of a patient requires. Where APRNs have received appropriate education and training, and qualified through certification, they should have consistent prescriptive authority aligned with their scope of practice.

A large body of published research conducted by expert panels and government agencies has consistently demonstrated that the care provided by APRNs meets or exceeds established standards for quality. It has been [my/our] experience that APRNs provide safe and effective health care to [me/my family][our patients/members] in our [practice/agency/the community/family].

In the report of the Committee on the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Initiative on the Future of Nursing at the Institute of Medicine of the National Academies (The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health), “Nurses have the opportunity to play a central role in transforming the health care system to create a more accessible, high-quality, and value-driven environment for patients. If the system is to capitalize on this opportunity, however, the constraints of outdated policies, regulations, and cultural barriers, including those related to scope of practice, will have to be lifted, most notably for advanced practice registered nurses.”

[I/We] agree that APRNs represent a pool of qualified professionals ready and able to meet the increasing demand in Arizona for timely access to preventive and restorative healthcare services. [I/We] value and support legislation that will permit APRNs to practice to the full extent of their education and training.

Respectfully,

[physician/administrator/community leader/ individual]

The intent would be to gather a list of all persons/entities who support this letter.