

**Letter: Increase nurse practitioners' role**

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<http://www.philly.com/philly/opinion/letters/bill-oreilly-unjustly-punished-or-wrongly-defended.html>

Pennsylvanians deserve access to primary care. The state's 10,000 nurse practitioners are fully qualified to provide high-quality care, but Pennsylvania law creates unnecessary barriers to practice ("Nurse practitioners need doctors," Monday). There is a simple solution: Senate Bill 25 and House Bill 100 increase access to quality care, lower costs, and maximize the primary care workforce.

Fact: More than 30 years of research demonstrates that nurse practitioners provide high-quality, affordable health care.

Fact: AARP, the Hospital Association of Pennsylvania, the Pennsylvania Rural Health Association, and countless consumers support this legislation.

Fact: 22 states and the District of Columbia have modernized their laws, expanding access to high-quality care.

Fact: Nurse practitioners, regardless of contractual agreements, routinely consult with other providers and prepare for emergencies.

Pennsylvania nurse practitioners are prepared to meet health-care needs. Why stand in the way?