



RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION

**Advanced Practice Registered Nurses Full Practice Authority
Resolution No. 16-03**

WHEREAS, nearly 6,000 Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRN) are currently serving our Veterans in the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) to include nurse practitioners (NPs); certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) certified nurse-midwives (CNMs); and clinical nurse specialists (CNSs); and

WHEREAS, APRNs deliver primary, specialized, and community healthcare, the full range of anesthesia services and, chronic pain management; and

WHEREAS, the VHA is currently experiencing a shortage of health care providers and struggles to provide our Veterans with timely access to high quality health care; and

WHEREAS, unnecessary barriers to full practice authority deter qualified APRNs from pursuing a career in VHA hindering VA's ability to recruit and retain highly qualified APRNs; and

WHEREAS, current policy in many states and VHA facilities do not allow APRNs to practice to the top of their training and expertise as full practice authority (FPA) providers; and

WHEREAS, adopting this policy would align with recommendations of the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Alliance to Modernize Healthcare (CAMH) report, *Independent Assessment of the Health Care Delivery Systems and Management Processes of the Department of Veterans Affairs* and the Institute of Medicines report, *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*; and

WHEREAS, adopting this policy would align with current APRN policy in Air Force Instruction 44-102, Navy FY14 Nursing Corps Special Pay Implementation Guidance (14Nov12), and Army Regulation 40-68, Clinical Quality Management; and

WHEREAS, the VHA is reviewing the policy to recognize the FPA of all four APRN provider types;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Reserve Officer Association of the United States, chartered by Congress, urge the Department of Veterans Affairs, a federal entity that should accept practice authority across all states commensurate with military facility authority, to employ all categories of advanced practice registered nurses to help meet the growing workforce needs of the Dept of VA and increase Veterans access to the highest quality health care they have earned and deserve.

Adopted by the National Convention, 14 September 2016

Source: Department of Virginia, 12 August 2016