



TO: Washington House of Representatives Children, Youth, and Families Committee

RE: HB 1325: Implementing policies related to children and youth behavioral health

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to provide written testimony to the committee.

I am a volunteer member of the Association of Advanced Practice Psychiatric Nurses (AAPPN) Legislation Committee. On behalf of AAPPN and our 300 members, I ask the committee to approve HB 1325 to continue to support the Partnership Access Line (PAL) for Moms.

This consultation line is an invaluable service as a great resource for consultation by our members in caring for individuals in need of perinatal and postpartum psychopharmacology and resources. It also serves a vital role in connecting practitioners to a perinatal specialist who can provide follow-up summaries of the consultation for additional resources.

As a mental health provider in rural Washington, I have utilized this consultation line and shared contact information for this service to other providers, including family health and OB/GYN providers in my clinic who care for women during pregnancy and postpartum periods.

I appreciate the opportunity PAL for Moms provides to speak with or consult a perinatal mental health specialist about treatment—including medication—and obtain available resources in Washington for individuals who need mental health services during this critical time in their life.

The individuals that I care for appreciate that healthcare providers can utilize this consultation line to provide them with resources and recommendations and this helps them feel connected and safe knowing we have this resource.

Thank you for your consideration and support of HB 1325.

Leslie M. Hite, ARNP, PMHNP-BC
124 Fritz Road
Riverside, WA 98849