WHAT DO WE NEED FROM OUR PHYSICIAN COLLEAGUES?

To agree APNs belong as full members of the health care team without the mandate for written collaboration. APNs, like other professionals of the healthcare team are fully accountable to uphold their scope of practice as determined by both Illinois licensure and national certification. Inherent in any profession is for members to uphold the standard of care. A part of that standard is to collaborate with all members of the healthcare team as needed. There is no evidence that a written document improves quality or safety of care.

HELPFUL APPROACHES

- A letter to legislators asking them to support the bill
- A letter to ISMS and/or other physician-led organizations urging ISMS and these other organizations to not to oppose the bill.

IMPORTANT REMINDER

Removing the WCA does not mean APNs will change the way they are providing care. It simply removes the piece of paper giving physicians the authority to determine their scope of practice, including prescribing authority, via a WCA. APNs are educated to uphold the standard of care based on their national certification and the scope of practice outlined within the nurse practice act. Good standards of practice and care require professional competence; collaborative relationships with other healthcare providers; and commitment to and observance of professional ethics.