

## MEMORANDUM

TO: House Committee on Health Care

FROM: Vermont Department of Health

DATE: April 7, 2026

SUBJECT: S.163, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) in hospital care

The Vermont Department of Health has reviewed S.163 and recognizes the bill as consistent with existing healthcare practices across the state. The Department supports provisions clarifying that Physician Assistants (PAs) and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) may hold admitting privileges in hospitals, noting that this authority already reflects current practice in many Vermont healthcare settings. Formalizing this in statute could bring clarity across institutions without introducing new or untested policies.

Importantly, S.163 does not expand or alter the scope of practice for PAs or APRNs. Instead, it aligns statutory language with how care is already being delivered. The bill also has no impact on hospital licensure requirements, as it does not impose new regulatory obligations on facilities. For these reasons, the Department views S.163 as a practical measure that reinforces Vermont's healthcare workforce without introducing additional regulatory burden.

