

SENATE BILL 444- TESTIMONY OF THOMAS J. MURPHY

Senate Business, Labor, and Economic Affairs

“AN ACT REVISING ADVANCED PRACTICE REGISTERED NURSE TREATMENT OF INJURED WORKERS; AND AMENDING SECTION 39-71-116, MCA.”

Introduced by Senator Dave Wanzenried

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, for the record, I am presenting the written testimony of Thomas J. Murphy, Attorney at Law, in support of Senate Bill 444 at his request.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss a critical issue that is hurting Montana Workers' Compensation Claimants. Many injured workers find it difficult to access satisfactory medical care. In Great Falls, we have many competent physicians, but most of these physicians now refuse to provide medical treatment for workers' compensation claimants. One solution to address this growing problem would be to allow Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to serve as "treating physicians" under the Workers' Compensation Act. I support efforts to make that happen in the 2007 Legislature.

Sincerely,

Thomas J. Murphy

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