March 31, 2015

Dear Colleagues,

The American Holistic Nursing Credentialing Corporation (AHNCC) respectfully requests the specialty of Advanced Practice Holistic Nursing, certified by AHNCC and designated by the registered service mark, APHN-BC, be added to the APRN Consensus Model.

The addition of these advanced practice nurse specialists to the Consensus Model is consistent with the Institute of Medicine’s reports that mandate nurses be allowed and facilitated to practice to the maximum of their ability; is consistent with the national healthcare transformation that calls for experts in health and wellness as defined by holistic nursing; and ensures that a large cohort of advanced practice nurses are included in the historical advancement of nursing via the Consensus Model and the Compact Agreement. The later issue is important if nursing is to move forward as a united force, rather than to be divided by restraint of practice as currently indicated by the Consensus Model.

The attached proposal (Attachment 1) builds on the AHNCC Position Statement circulated to the NCSBN members, the APRN WorkGroup, and the individual State Boards of Nursing in 2013. This proposal is organized to show the relations between the current Consensus Model components (shown in tan), and specifics regarding the addition of the APHN-BC specialty (shown in blue). Specifically it provides an abbreviated overview of the specialty of Holistic Nursing as approved by ANA in 2007; the APHN-BC population focus; role of the APHN-BC; and the required Core Education and certification for APHN-BC status.

Consistent with our request, we have submitted a response to the American Nurses Association call for public feedback regarding the proposed revisions in Nursing’s Scope and Standards. Our letter to ANA and our feedback is shown in Attachments 2 and 3.

We look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret Erickson, PhD, APHN-BC, CNS-APRN
Executive Director, The American Holistic Nurses Credentialing Corporation