

**The Nurse Practitioner Association
New York State**

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MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

A. 6665 (Gottfried)

S. 4495 (Duane)

An Act to amend the public health law, the education law and the labor law, in relation to prohibiting participation in torture and improper treatment of prisoners by health care professionals

This bill would bar health care professionals from participating in torture or improper treatment of prisoners, and provide a means by which health care professionals responsible for the care of prisoners or detainees can refuse an order to directly or indirectly participate in torture and to insist on providing professionally responsible care and treatment..

The Nurse Practitioner Association New York State (The NPA) is the professional organization of nurse practitioners, nearly 13,000 of who practice throughout New York State. The NPA and its members are committed to maintaining the highest professional standards for nurse practitioners. The NPA provides continuing education programs, assists in nurse practitioner training and advocates with respect to legislative and regulatory issues which affect nurse practitioners and the patients they serve.

It is the policy of the Nurse Practitioner Association New York State (NPA) to uphold the highest ethical and moral standards at all times. In fulfillment of its mission to promote high standards of healthcare delivery through the empowerment of nurse practitioners and the profession throughout New York State, we are committed to being faithful to the key principles of excellence, absolute integrity, service above self, and the well being of our constituency. As health care professionals, we have an ethical obligation to protect prisoners against torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment.

We urge that this bill be approved by the Legislature.