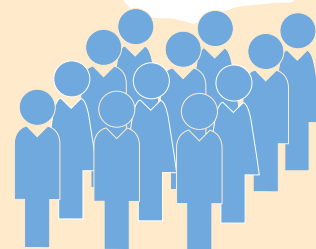
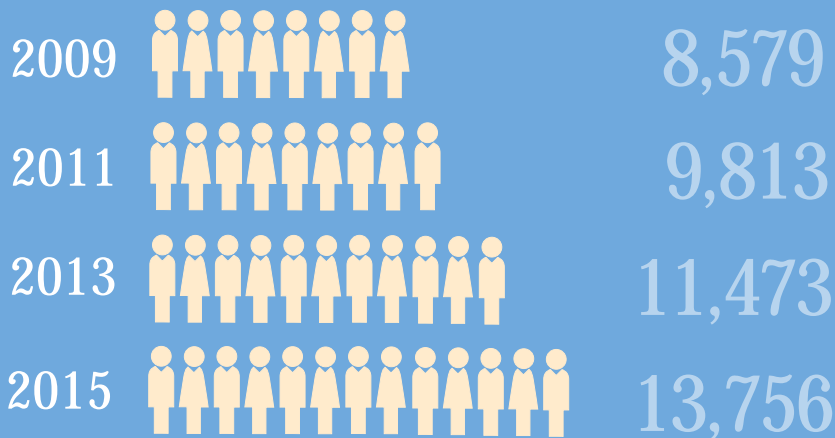


# Teams Work . . . for Patients

Proponents of H.B. 216 argue that Ohio law is too restrictive, causing Advanced Practice Registered Nurses to leave the state to find work. They say passage of the bill will increase APRNs in rural areas. However, based on information from the Ohio Board of Nursing 2015 APRN Workforce Data Summary Report, those arguments may not be accurate.

The number of APRNs in Ohio continues to grow.



There is no data showing that APRNs are leaving Ohio to practice in other states; in fact the opposite is true.

Current Ohio law does not make it hard for APRNs to find work.

13,372 APRNs responded to the workforce survey  
Only 21 say they can't find a job

Ohio law does not keep APRNs from practicing in rural areas; they choose not to and are practicing in urban areas instead. The largest numbers are in Columbus, Cleveland and Cincinnati.

APRNs claim they want to practice in primary care yet only 13% chose primary care as their main area of practice.

Ohio law says a physician doesn't have to collaborate in the same zip code, or even one nearby. An APRN could practice in rural parts of the state and collaborate with a physician anywhere in Ohio. They just aren't doing so.

According to a 2012 study by the University of Washington Rural Health Research Center, states allowing APRN independent practice have not seen a significant growth of APRNs in rural areas.

The National Center for the Analysis of Healthcare Data reviewed 18 states with independent practice and found a larger percentage of nurse practitioners migrating to urban over rural areas from 2008-2015.

House Bill 216 would permit Advanced Practice Registered Nurses or APRNs (Certified Nurse Practitioners, Certified Nurse Midwives and Clinical Nurse Specialists) to practice independently with no requirement for physician collaboration.

H.B. 216 will not improve access in rural areas. A team-based approach to health care, with physicians working collaboratively with the entire health care team, will best serve Ohioans. Ohio's physicians value the abilities and contributions of APRNs and all nurses. However, House Bill 216 goes too far to upset the collaborative effort already underway among all health care professionals.

For more information please contact Monica Hueckel of the Ohio State Medical Association at 614.527.6745 or [mhueckel@osma.org](mailto:mhueckel@osma.org) or visit [www.osma.org](http://www.osma.org).



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