

# A BROAD CONSENSUS ON EXPANDING NURSE PRACTITIONERS' SCOPE OF PRACTICE

DR. DAVID MITCHELL, PH.D.

Arkansas, like many states, faces a growing shortage of primary care physicians. However, other states are ahead of us in dealing with this problem by empowering nurse practitioners to provide more primary care services. Currently, Arkansans are restrained from getting care and services that our nurse practitioners have already been expertly trained in. These are procedures patients need and nurse practitioners are trained to provide.

The consensus that nurse practitioners can safely do more is widespread. The Trump and Obama Administrations, the National Governors Association, AARP, and research institutes from across the political spectrum all found the same result: **nurse practitioners can be just as effective as physicians at providing primary care without reducing patient safety.**

## SUPPORT FOR THIS POLICY:

- ✓ TRUMP WHITE HOUSE
- ✓ OBAMA WHITE HOUSE
- ✓ NATIONAL GOVERNORS ASSOCIATION
- ✓ NATIONAL ACADEMY OF MEDICINE
- ✓ AARP
- ✓ FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION
- ✓ AMERICAN ENTERPRISE INSTITUTE
- ✓ BROOKINGS INSTITUTION
- ✓ CATO INSTITUTE
- ✓ HEARTLAND INSTITUTE



## Author

Dr. David Mitchell is the director of the Arkansas Center for Research in Economics and an associate professor of economics at the University of Central Arkansas. He has published in academic journals and in the popular press including the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, Jonesboro Sun and the Log Cabin Democrat. He earned his B.S. and M.A. in Economics from Clemson University and was awarded his Ph.D. from George Mason University. If you have any questions about the research on nurse practitioners or about these sources, please contact Dr. David Mitchell at [dmitchell@uca.edu](mailto:dmitchell@uca.edu).

## About ACRE

The Arkansas Center for Research in Economics (ACRE) is an Arkansas focused research center housed in the College of Business at the University of Central Arkansas. ACRE scholars and policy analysts use research and analysis to find solutions for Arkansas's problems. Our research focuses on barriers to employment, taxes and subsidies, good governance and government transparency.

*The views and opinions expressed herein are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the University of Central Arkansas, nor are they endorsed by the University of Central Arkansas.*

