

# Region II Mental Health Board

Serving Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis and Nezperce Counties

December 21, 2012

Dear Idaho Legislators:

The Region II Mental Health Board strongly supports the legislation that allows psychiatric nurse practitioners to hold mentally ill patients.

As many of you know, there are child and adult mental health crisis situations happening daily throughout our state. This legislation expands the professional capacity to take swift action to get those in need the help they require to protect themselves and others.

The legislation amends section 66-326, Idaho Code, to provide that Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners may detain an alleged mentally ill patient without hearing; Amending section 66-329, Idaho Code, to provide that Mental Health Psychiatric Nurse Practitioners may commence proceedings for the involuntary care and treatment of mentally ill persons by the Department of Health and Welfare.

Mental illness is a health issue that needs your and our attention. We look forward to the opportunity to work with you to improve our mental health system in the State of Idaho for families in our communities.

Thank you for your consideration to support this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,



Jim Rehder, Chair  
Region II Mental Health Board