



The Office of Secretary of State

Brian P. Kemp
SECRETARY OF STATE

June 29, 2016

Ms. Brenda Rowe
President, Georgia Board of Nursing

Dear Ms. Rowe,

Based on our conversation earlier today after meeting with key stakeholders representing GNA and associated groups, I am proposing a six-month transitional period where the current Board of Nursing's Executive Director, Jim Cleghorn, will utilize his extensive knowledge of the board's processes to advise and train Andrew Turnage, the board's future Executive Director. In addition, Mr. Cleghorn will devote a portion of his time to the soon-to-be vacant Nursing Education Consultant position to prevent a disruption of service. While the Professional Licensing Boards Division and Board of Nursing move through this transition, my office will actively seek candidates to fill the Nursing Education Consultant position as quickly as possible.

As I have experienced firsthand in my role as Secretary of State, it is vitally important to ensure that Georgia's workforce receives top-notch service from state government, which includes the Professional Licensing Board Division. To achieve great customer service, I strongly encourage information-sharing between employees to prevent the loss of specialized knowledge due to turnover. That is why I am confident that this proposal will more than adequately address nursing stakeholders' concerns and best prepare Mr. Turnage for his future role as Executive Director for Georgia's Board of Nursing. While I understand that change may be difficult, change also offers the prospect of fresh ideas to streamline day-to-day operations and processes.

Please feel free to share this letter with members of the board and any board stakeholders you deem appropriate.

Sincerely,

Brian P. Kemp