

June 29, 2021

New Hampshire Executive Council  
107 North Main Street  
State House, Room 207  
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Councilors:

On behalf of the American Medical Association (AMA) and our physician and medical student members, I urge the Executive Council to reject the Parkdale contract put forward by the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification (OPLC) for the professional health program (PHP) services when you meet on June 30, 2021. The AMA strongly encourages you to ensure consistency and confidence in PHP services to protect New Hampshire's health care workforce rather than inject confusion and subject PHP services to uncertainty and disarray.

The AMA is greatly concerned by the prospect of using an out-of-state, untested program without demonstrated experience or expertise in the field of physician health or health professional monitoring. The New Hampshire Professionals Health Program (NHPHP) has demonstrated success and is a trusted resource throughout the New Hampshire medical and health care community. Going to an out-of-state, unknown entity would create unnecessary risk and the potential for harm.

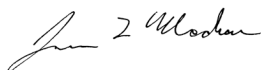
We are very concerned by reports from our colleagues in New Hampshire that the health care professional boards were not consulted when pursuing an out-of-state entity.

By trading a highly regarded national program for an unknown entity, New Hampshire would place patient safety and the well-being of the health care workforce at risk. We point your attention to the fact that a very similar, out-of-state contract for the New Hampshire Board of Nursing a few years ago resulted in failure, only to be rectified by relying on the trusted expertise of the New Hampshire Professionals Health Program (NHPHP).

We also want to stress that as the nation—and New Hampshire—recovers from the COVID-19 pandemic, continued confidence in all aspects of our health care systems is vital. The NHPHP works because it is deeply connected to New Hampshire, and it has a demonstrated track record of success in New Hampshire. The physicians and patients of New Hampshire should continue to benefit from the NHPHP. We urge you to reject the Parkdale proposal and support the NHPHP.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact Daniel Blaney-Koen, JD, Senior Legislative Attorney, AMA Advocacy Resource Center at [daniel.blaney-koen@ama-assn.org](mailto:daniel.blaney-koen@ama-assn.org).

Sincerely,



James L. Madara, MD