



Contact your Senator & House Representative now!

Ask for his/her support to vote

“YES” on SB 1990 Chief Sponsor Senator Joyce

How to Locate your Illinois state Senator

and House Representative: <https://www.illinoispolicy.org/maps/>

Make the Ask: Vote “Yes” Senate Bill 1990 Nurse - Delegation

Amends 2017 Illinois Nurse Practice Act (NPA) by

Senate Bill 1990 restores safety to nursing regulation:

- Restores the definition of “task” work not requiring nursing knowledge from the 2007 NPA;
- Restores full and robust definition of “professional registered nursing” from the 2007 NPA including *nursing process and role of RN in medication administration*;
- Removes language that allows RNs to delegate medication administration and other nursing interventions to unlicensed non-nurse personnel in the Community and In-home settings.

Contact: Pam Robbins MSN, RN CCNBNA Health Policy

Cell: 815-592-4265 pamrobbins4265@gmail.com

Restore Public Safety - "YES" on SB 1990

Problem—unlicensed, uneducated, unsupervised persons (**medical assistants**) can now perform nursing interventions including medication administration in Community settings (schools & clinics.) Medical assistants are NOT registered nurses!

Who is delivering nursing care to you and your family? ASK!

The "Purpose" of the Illinois Nurse Practice Act law is that **only qualified and authorized persons practice nursing.**

Nurse Practice Act Legislative purpose. The practice of professional and practical nursing in the State of Illinois is hereby declared to affect the public health, safety, and welfare and to be subject to regulation and control in the public interest. It is further declared to be a matter of public interest and concern that the practice of nursing, as defined in this Act, merit and receive the confidence of the public and **that only qualified persons be authorized to so practice in the State of Illinois.**

Licensed nurses (LPN, RN, APRN)

Nurses are **qualified** (educated) required to take approved standardized courses requiring theory and clinical competencies with passing overall grade of a "B";

Nurses are "**authorized**" (licensed) by passing a federally standardized exam (NCLEX) to determine if a nurse candidate is prepared to be allowed to practice;

Nurses are "**accountable**" for all actions to state agency oversight for practice as a nurse caring for patients and are subject to discipline, infractions against including revocation of their nursing license if practice is deemed so by the Illinois Board of Nursing..



Medical Assistants (unlicensed persons)

Complete NO approved standardized education as nurses are mandated by law to complete;

Possess NO state licensure as nurses are mandated by law to be licensed to practice;

Regulated by NO state agency oversight that nurses are accountable by law for their actions.

Medical assistant care (unlicensed assistive persons) IS NOT EQUAL TO THE CARE of LICENSED NURSES.

Restore the public's protection—VOTE "YES" on SB 1990 so qualified & authorized persons practice nursing!

- ◇ **Restore in regulation** the robust definition of registered professional nursing identifying the role of nursing in practice; i.e. *nursing process* elements of diagnosis, assessment, planning, implementation, evaluation, intervention, patient teaching to name a few.
- ◇ **Restore in regulation the word "task"**, work not requiring nursing knowledge, for nurses to safely delegate to unlicensed persons;
- ◇ **Restore in regulation** that registered nurses are **prohibited from delegating nursing interventions** including medication administration to unlicensed, uneducated, unsupervised non-nurse personnel in the Community setting (clinics & schools) .

ASK YOUR STATE SENATOR & HOUSE REPRESENTATIVE TO VOTE "YES" FOR SB 1990

Questions ? Contact Pam Robbins MSN, RN CCNBNA Health Policy at pamrobbins4265@gmail.com

Organizations in support: Chicago Chapter National Black Nurses, Illinois Nurses Association, National Nurses United, & Illinois AFL-CIO



President Ethel Walton RN

SUPPORT SB 1990 - RESTORE SAFE DELEGATION BY REGISTERED NURSES

The Chicago Chapter National Black Nurses Association (CCNBNA) respectfully request your support on **SB 1990** restoring that only qualified (educated) and authorized (licensed) nurses practice nursing in all care settings. The underpinning to practice nursing – to protect the public, requires a nursing education and possessing a nursing license for over a century! Allowing unqualified, unauthorized persons to practice nursing put's the public's health at risk.

- Illinois Nurse Practice Act (NPA) allows one to practice as a nurse **AFTER you have completed and passed** an Illinois State Board of Nursing set of approved nursing courses **AND successfully passed a national state nursing licensure exam** (NCLEX).
- The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation's oversight can hold the nurse accountable for their actions caring for the public.

WHAT CHANGED? NPA's delegation language. In 2017 NPA changes allow registered nurses now to delegate "nursing interventions" to unlicensed, uneducated persons, including medication administration in Community settings (clinics and schools) who can work independently without nursing supervision. **THE 2017 NURSE DELEGATION LANGUAGE CHANGES ARE UNSAFE.** The 2017 Delegation language conflicts with the Legislative Purpose of the Illinois Nurse Practice Act requiring nurses are *qualified* and *authorized* to practice nursing.

What specific unsafe changes occurred in the 2017 NPA regulation?

- *DEREGULATING NURSING BY UNCOUPLING EDUCATION & LICENSURE TO PRACTICE NURSING* Without evidence, the delegation language no longer requires one to be qualified (educated) or authorized (licensed) to practice nursing. The NPA Legislative Purpose language states one must be qualified and authorized, the 2017 Delegation contradicts the Purpose of the NPA.
- *REMOVAL OF THE ROLES OF PROFESSIONAL REGISTERED NURSING IN ITS DEFINITION* The definition of professional nursing was gutted removing the robust roles of the registered nurses, including the key role of knowledgeable nurse to administering medications. Prior 2017, complex responsibilities such as medication administration were prohibited to delegate to unlicensed persons. Now registered nurses can delegate medication administration including injectable medications such as insulin to uneducated, unlicensed non-nurse persons in Community settings (clinics & schools) **unsupervised**.
- *THE DEFINITION OF "TASK" WAS REMOVED* Prior 2017 the ability for a registered nurse to discern quickly delegating work safely was shaped by parameters inn the law clearly decerning what work a registered nurse was allowed to delegate to whom and always based on nursing knowledge and clinical judgment. A registered nurse was prohibited from delegating nursing work requiring clinical judgment to unlicensed persons. A "task", work not requiring nursing knowledge or clinical judgment and thus could be safely delegated to unlicensed persons. Medication administration was prohibited to be delegated to an unlicensed person. The only definition of work now is a "nursing intervention" work the nurse performs. **"Nursing intervention" means** any treatment based on clinical **nursing** judgment or knowledge that a **nurse** performs. The contradictory language of the 2017 must be made consistent & clear.

Please **VOTE "YES" for SB 1990 to return safety within the Illinois Nurse Practice Act by:**

- Restoring the robust definition of nursing delineating clear roles of the registered nurse.
- Restoring the definition of "task" work not requiring nursing knowledge or clinical judgment.
- Removing that nurses can delegate nursing interventions to uneducated & unlicensed persons.

Questions? Contact Pam Robbins MSN, RN CCNBNA Health Policy - pamrobbins4265@gmail.com

Preparing for your Illinois state legislator visit: “yes” on SB 1990

Make sure that you discuss appropriate legislation with the appropriate legislator. Discuss **state** issues with members of your **state legislature** (state House of Representatives and state Senators).

Locate your state legislators (state Senator & state House Representative <https://www.illinoispolicy.org/maps/>)

Multiple resource downloads available on Chicago Chapter nurses' web site: <https://chicagochapternbna.org/>

- ✓ Send ahead our Factsheet to their Springfield (or home District) office – the best way for the legislator to be prepared is to send them the bill you wish to discuss before your meeting – your objective is to “make the ask” for their support for the bill.
- ✓ Make your position known up front to when you make the call for your visit appointment, to prepare their staff and the legislator on what you will be speaking to them about at your visit.
- ✓ Share if you are a part of an organization.
- ✓ You should have a business card to identify who you are, your credentials, affiliation with nursing organizations, address, phone number & email.

Prepare a written interview agenda of topics to cover - practice it and take it to the meeting. Include:

- **Introductions.**
 - Introduce yourself and any others accompanying you!
 - Share if you're a member of an organization (i.e. Chicago Chapter National Black Nurses Association).
 - **Explain the purpose of your meeting to the legislator at the beginning of the meeting** for example: “I'd like to discuss **Senate Bill 1990**, amending the Illinois Nurse Practice Act, that you will be addressing in the 2021 Illinois General Assembly session” or “I'd like to share why my organization is seeking your support”.
Meetings usually last 20 or so minutes.
- **Identify your concerns/position on the issue/bill. Use an example that you are familiar with to explain why the bill is needed to pass.** Public safety is a broad comment, please explain to your state legislator, in your own words, using your own workplace, experience and knowledge as a nurse constituent your expert opinion & observations i.e. use of unlicensed, unregulated non-nurses performing nursing interventions such as medication administration and potential of risk to public in Community settings (clinics and schools). Remind legislator “the public” is your family, their family, as well as their constituents as potential patients in the Community setting.
- **Make the “Ask” of the legislator** for his/her support for your position/proposed bill.
- **Ask for their co-sponsorship** of the bill.
- **Answer questions if any**, be their nurse constituent expert resource as the bill proceeds through the legislative process. *Others may have an opposing opinion of your bill. Your opinion is relevant as an expert in nursing!*
- **Thank them** for their time. Leave legislator a factsheet and your contact information.
- **Follow up with them.** *Keep them apprised of the bill's path.*



President Ethel Walton RN

CCNBNA <https://chicagochapternbna.org/>

RESTORE THE PUBLIC'S SAFETY

Amend Illinois' Nurse Practice Act Delegation language

Vote "Yes" on SB 1990

Background The Illinois Nurse Practice Act (NPA) regulates nursing education and licensure to practice as a nurse. The "Legislative Purpose" of the NPA states: ...the practice of professional nursing...is hereby declared to affect the public health, safety, and welfare and to be subject to regulation and control in the public interest. It is further declared to be a matter of public interest and concern that the practice of nursing, as defined in this Act, merit and receive the confidence of the public and that only qualified persons be authorized to so practice in the State of Illinois. This Act shall be liberally construed to best carry out these subjects and purposes.

Nurse Practice Act delegation language changes in 2017 removed requiring nursing education & license to practice nursing by allowing an RN to delegate nursing to unlicensed persons in Community settings (schools & clinics).

No Evidence to make such delegation changes!

There is no national evidence to support non-nurses are as safe as nurses performing nursing. An Illinois Medication Aide Pilot produced no statistical evidence that RN's who delegate to minimally trained non-nurse persons medication administration in nursing homes are as safe as nurses.

Registered Nurse Delegation Must Be Safe

Prior to 2017, Illinois Nurse Practice language was clear—nurses were prohibited from delegating work requiring nursing knowledge and clinical judgment to non-nurses. Prior 2017, medication administration was a nursing responsibility not to be delegated to non-nurses. Now, non-nurses can perform nursing including medication administration in schools/clinics.

Nursing Is Not a Set of Simple Motor Skills

Since 1907, the Nurse Practice Act has required qualified (educated) & authorized (licensed) to practice nursing. Then in 2017 NPA delegation changes with no evidence uncoupled license & education to practice nursing!

The Public's Protection Must be Clear in Law

Nurses delegating the appropriate work to the appropriate person has been clear in the NPA based on one's education & license. Then in 2017 without evidence public safety standards changed. Restore safety in NPA delegation— **Support SB 1990.**

Health Policy Contact - Pam Robbins MSN, RN pamrobbins4265@gmail.com

Organizational Supporters of SB 1990

