

## CCNBNA Bill Position

# SUPPORT Senate Bill 1277

**Bill sponsor Senator Mattie Hunter**

**BACKGROUND:** Changes in the 2017 Nurse Practice Act (NPA) regarding delegation lowering the standard to practice nursing in Illinois. It no longer required that qualified (educated) authorized (licensed) nurses practice nursing interventions outside the hospital – creating access disparity of nursing services.

**RESTORE** that only qualified & authorized nurses practice nursing interventions across all settings – including the Community setting (i.e., clinics and schools) – **SUPPORT Senate Bill 1277.**

**The unsuspecting public deserves qualified and authorized nurses practicing nursing across all care settings from the hospital to the community with SB 1277 as they have until dramatic untested changes occurred in the 2017 NPA.**

**ACTION:** Locate your state legislators <https://www.illinoispolicy.org/maps/> ask for their **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 1277 and become a SB 1277 bill sponsor. **SB 1277 Full text:** [https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/fulltext.asp?](https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/fulltext.asp?DocName=&SessionId=112&GA=103&DocTypeId=SB&DocNum=1277&GAID=17&LegID=145522&SpecSess=&Session=)

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**SB 1277 amends the Nurse Practice Act restoring language in the Illinois Nurse Practice Act reinstating only educated, licensed nurses practice nursing across all settings.**

**Changes in the 2017 Illinois NPA delegation created breaches public safety & more:**

- **Lowered the standard of care** by not requiring a qualified (educated) authorized (licensed) registered nurse to deliver nursing interventions creating **health disparity for the public** to access expert nursing care in Community. Affects all outside the walls of the hospital, children, aged, people of diversity, lower incomes etc.
- **Creates two standards of care for receiving nursing care:** one for in hospital setting where the nurse is prohibited from delegating to unlicensed personnel; and a lower one not requiring a qualified registered nurse to perform interventions in community care setting (i.e., clinics & schools). Nurses scope to practice is by their education and licensure, not by where they work.
- **There is NO state agency oversight an unlicensed worker performing nursing interventions** as nurses are mandated in law. The Illinois Dept. of Financial and Professional Regulation has oversight for all licensed nurses.
- **There is NO state agency oversight of unlicensed persons (i.e., medical assistants) in community settings** who are now practicing nursing without a license. **No reporting agency for errors, patient injury or deaths.**
- **There is no standard nursing education for unlicensed personnel** performing nursing interventions – but mandated for licensed nurses.
- **There was NO EVIDENCE** to support these changes in delegation – an untested model of nursing.

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- **Registered nurses have been eliminated from caring for the public in community** setting replaced with medical assistants who are NOT licensed or educated but are performing regulated nursing work – at times unsupervised by any nurse. **Ask who is caring for you in the community setting – is it a nurse?**



Check our website <https://chicagochapternbn.org/>

## Chicago Chapter positions on other health policy bills for 2023...

**OPPOSE HB1069** amends the Nurse Practice Act and would allow new graduates who are qualified to take but have not passed the NCLEX to practice as License Pending or Exam Pending under the direction of a Registered Nurse.

**ACTION:** Call this bill sponsor House Representative Yednock (217) 782-0140 and ask him to hold House Bill 1069 which does not uphold education and licensure requirements of the practicing nurse mandated within the Illinois Nurse Practice Act *Legislative Purpose*. This bill is but another example to devalue and deregulate nursing's linchpins of education & licensure to practice nursing

**RATIONALE** – research supports the longer graduate nurses delay taking NCLEX, the more **likely successful licensure pass rates drop**. This bill violates the *Legislative Purpose* of the Illinois Nurse Practice Act, weakening our nursing regulation, lowering the standard of nursing education and licensure result - impact to public safety. Legislative Purpose states one must be qualified (educated and pass an approved nursing curriculum) and authorized (licensed which is passing the NCLEX nursing exam) before practicing as a nurse. These two components education and licensure set the standard to practice nursing in Illinois as determined for over a century in protecting the unsuspecting public from harm.

**OPPOSE SB41** spearheaded by ANA-Illinois and sponsored by Senator Sara Feigenholtz, Nurse Licensure Compact. Many groups continue to support the passage of the Nurse Licensure Compact.

**ACTION:** Call Senator Feigenholtz to hold Senate bill 41 diminishing funding our programs (217) 557-0523

**RATIONALE:** The Compact removes millions of dollars from Nurse Licensure Fee Fund which supports ALL our nursing programs (i.e., scholarships, Board of Nursing, IDFPR attorney services)

- Illinois nursing licensure fee is among the lowest (tenth) in the country. (\$40/year)
- In a Compact the state of residence is the depository of the nurse licensure fee. The reduction of state revenue from losing 42,000 licensed nurses is \$3,360,000 (3.4 million)
- **Each state must first license its professionals.** Compacts don't license nurses. A state licenses the nurse.