

# **SUPPORT Senate Bill 1277**

**Bill sponsor Senator Mattie Hunter**

**BACKGROUND:** Changes in the 2017 Nurse Practice Act (NPA) regarding delegation lowered 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. SB 1277 restores such standards. Dramatic untested changes\* occurred in the 2017 NPA.**

**ACTION:** Chicago Chapter requests **SUPPORT** of Senate Bill 1277

**SB 1277 Full text:** [https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/fulltext.asp?](https://www.ilga.gov/legislation/fulltext.asp?DocName=&SessionId=112&GA=103&DocTypeld=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.
- **Created 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.

- **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?**

**CCNBNA Lobbyists:** Dr. Taylor [taylor.mildred@att.net](mailto:taylor.mildred@att.net) Pam Robbins MSN, RN [pamrobbins4265@gmail.com](mailto:pamrobbins4265@gmail.com)