



**President Ethel Walton RN**

Health Policy Chair Dr. Mildred Taylor contact [taylor.mildred@att.net](mailto:taylor.mildred@att.net)

## **SCRIPT FOR Senate Bill (SB) 1990 by CCNBNA members to all state legislators**

I am a member of the Chicago Chapter National Black Nurses Association (CCNBNA). We have joined in a coalition of other organizations to return safety to nursing regulation. We wish to speak to Senator on this issue of public safety – support on SB 1990. CCNBNA's plan for the bill sponsor, Senator Patrick Joyce to place Senate Bill 1990 forward to correct the dangers of nurse delegation within the 2017 Nurse Practice Act.

### **The Issue: is public safety no longer requires an educated licensed nurse to perform “nursing interventions” outside the walls of the hospital.**

The 2017 Nurse Practice Act created new delegation language. It states that registered nurses can delegate “nursing interventions” to unlicensed, uneducated non-nurses, **UNSUPERVISED** in the Community setting – including medication administration. CCNBNA believes language which has no evidence in its safety, is a dangerous change and creates a new separate and lower standard of patient care outside the walls of the hospital for the registered nurse when delegating work to others. Such places the poor, people of color and other vulnerable populations to lose access to qualified authorized licensed nurses when seeking healthcare services. To demonstrate the confusion of two scopes of practice now created by the 2017 delegation changes: nurses are prohibited from delegating nursing interventions to non-nurses within a hospital but not outside the walls of the hospital. Why is the public outside the walls of the hospital provided by law a lower standard of care?

**Possible rationale for the change:** Hospital liability; increase risk for patient injury/death; occurrence of patient errors, costs by unqualified persons performing nursing without being an educated licensed nurse. This 2017 Nurse Practice Act change in regulation has begun to replace nurses in the various community settings with unlicensed non-nurses to practice nursing.

**PLAN:** We ask SB 1990 bill be placed before Committee to be heard by the entire General Assembly in 2022.

The *Legislative Purpose* of the Nurse Practice Act must be clear in all its regulation language.

(225 ILCS 65/50-5) (was 225 ILCS 65/5-5)

(Section scheduled to be repealed on January 1, 2028)

Sec. 50-5. **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. This Act shall be liberally construed to best carry out these subjects and purposes.

(Source: P.A. 95-639, eff. 10-5-07.)

### **THERE IS NO EVIDENCE TO SUPPORT NON-NURSE PERSONS PRACTICING NURSING IS SAFE**

**BACKGROUND** There was a Licensed Medication Aide Pilot (PA 098-0990) to determine if minimally trained certified nurse assistants with 2.5 weeks of on-site nursing home education were safe to administer medications. There were only **4 participants** in the 3-year Pilot (2016-2019). The Pilot was ongoing during the Illinois Nurse Practice Act negotiations (2016-2017). Although the Pilot failed, it did not deter a small nursing organization to push this dangerous UNTESTED model of nursing care into state nursing regulation.

**LEGISLATIVE REMEDY:**

Senate Bill 1990. Restore safe delegation language within the Illinois Nurse Practice Act. CCNBNA believes public safety can be restored with clear and concise delegation language and definitions of work. Including a definition of professional nursing as to the roles of a nurse, and that identifies delegation of work by a nurse to others is determined by the delegatee's state approved education/license to practice nursing as prescribed in the Legislative Purpose of the Illinois Nurse Practice Act.

Currently, hospital nurses are prohibited to delegate medication administration to those do not possess nursing education/licensure - practicing nursing interventions in hospitals but allowed to delegate nursing interventions to unlicensed persons in the Community setting. The double standard - one that is a lower standard of care to deliver nursing to the public treated in facilities outside of the hospital has created confusion and inconsistency (a double standard) for those who are the most vulnerable – the poor, children in schools and people of color in Community settings – a portal for health care requiring qualified health professionals.

**WHAT DOES SB 1990 DO?**

**SB 1990 will mandate the Nurse Practice Act to again align with its Legislative Purpose that are registered professional nurse can delegate nursing interventions to those who are properly education and licensed to perform nursing interventions across ALL CARE SETTINGS (inside the hospital and in the community).**

**SB 1990 will re-establish that nurses perform the safe delegation of work to others that does not require nursing knowledge and it will be restored with the definition of such work as “tasks”.**

**SB 1990 will re-establish in robust definition the roles of the registered professional nurse which were gutted in the 2017 Nurse Practice Act.**

Thank you for your attention to this matter and we look forward to communicating with you, answer any of your questions hope you will **SUPPORT SB 1990** and become a bill sponsor as SB 1990 is introduced in 2022.

Any questions - please call me!

Thank you!

Your Name/signature  
Credentials  
Member of the CCNBNA  
Your Cell  
Your email