

Government Affairs Committee August 2023 pre-SC and State Council Meeting Summary

People often say, with pride, "I'm not interested in politics."

They might as well say, "I'm not interested in my standard of living, my health, my job, my rights, my future or any future. . . "

If we mean to keep any control over our world and lives, we must be interested in politics.

Martha Gellhorn, journalist

State Updates

Focus of both the pre-SC zoom meeting and State Council meeting is the implementation of our strategic goals:

Board-approved Strategic Goals:

Improve Leg Day attendance (in person and virtually) by 10% year over year.

- a. Establish early registration by January annually with social media and Chapter Representatives promotion of the event
- b. Advertise the LEG DAY education component (free CEUs for members) with earlier marketing (November Education event) and (January) registration links
- c. Continued/frequent marketing for Leg Day during 1st quarter annually

Engage members with legislator contacts increased by 20%.

- a. Early Leg Day Registration and tutorials for contacting legislators
- b. Identify barriers to contacting legislators with Leg Day attendees and GAC survey (Q3- 2023)

Barriers identified are lack of understanding of the political process, funding, and time.

Will offer Chapter meeting “mini Leg Day” events that include free CEU opportunity; market to nursing school students to educate; and engage at the local level membership to discuss benefits of Grassroots and Grasstops representation to promote our profession, and improve patient outcomes.

National Updates

It is not too late. . . please contact your individual U.S. Representative to ask for co-sponsorship of ENA policy priorities, or if your Representative is already a co-sponsor of a priority bill, simply thank them for their support. The key is: ask.

- We met with Senator Feinstein and Senator Padilla legislative staff members on Capitol Hill during DOTH 2023. No need to connect with them again.

BILLS SUMMARY

- 1. WPV Prevention - H.R. 2663/S. 1176**
 - Referred to committees in each house
- 2. MH Access in the ED - S. 1346**
 - House intro is expected soon
- 3. Prevent BLEEDing Act - S. 1653**
 - House intro is expected soon
- 4. MISSION Zero Act - H.R. 2416**
 - Senate intro expected soon

Want to follow-up with a representative via email? Download the one-pagers to attach to those messages. You can also print these for use in future meetings in the district or state office.

- [Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act](#)
- [Workplace Violence in Emergency Departments Infographic](#)
- [Improving Mental Health Access from the Emergency Department Act](#)

You and your colleagues can further support emergency nurses against workplace violence by [**clicking this link**](#) to contact your representatives today urging them to co-sponsor and support the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act - H.R. 2663/S. 1176.