

Legislative and Regulatory Update – January 7, 2019

New Legislative Session Begins Monday

The preliminary 2019-20 legislative calendar has been released. It is expected to be approved by the legislature on Monday. The first floor periods in January will be on January 15 and again January 22 through 24. More info will be available and posted on the State Legislature Home Page at <http://legis.wisconsin.gov/>

Evers Names Obama Administration Senior Counselor as New WI Health Secretary



Andrea Palm

Gov.-Elect Tony Evers on Thursday announced his picks for five more Cabinet secretary positions, including Andrea Palm as the new Wisconsin Department of Health Services secretary. **Andrea Palm**, Department of Health Services: Andrea Palm, who comes from outside of Wisconsin, served as senior counselor to the U.S. Health and Human Services secretary under President Obama between 2014-17 and as senior adviser for the White House Domestic Policy Council. She also worked as a senior health policy adviser to then-U.S. Senator Hillary Clinton from 2004-09 and as legislative director to Congressman Robert Matsui. She has 20 years of experience working on federal health care policy issues.



Dawn Crim

Dawn Crim, Department of Safety and Professional Services: Dawn Crim is a former assistant women's basketball coach at UW-Madison and is currently assistant state superintendent for the Division of Student and School Success at the Department of Public Instruction.

Bill Seeks to Provide Pre-Existing Condition Coverage Protections in Wisconsin

Two Republican lawmakers have drafted legislation that would put into place pre-existing condition coverage protections in Wisconsin. Sen.-Elect Andre Jacque (R-DePere) and Rep. Kevin Petersen (R-Waupaca) have drafted a bill, dubbed the Pre-Existing Condition Guaranteed Coverage Act, which would prevent insurance companies from denying someone a policy because they have a pre-existing condition, refusing to cover

services that people need to treat a pre-existing condition or charging a higher premium based on a person's health status. [Click here](#) to read the bill draft.

LEGISLATOR LISTENING SESSIONS

The following state legislators have scheduled listening sessions in their districts - to hear from their constituents about legislative issues, the state budget or other items of concern. Please let WNA know if you plan to attend by contacting gina@wisconsinnurses.org or 608-228-3300. You can find WNA's top four priorities at <https://www.wisconsinnurses.org/advocacy/current-priorities/>

STATE SENATORS

State Sen. Dan Feyen (R-Fond du Lac)

- Wednesday, January 9, 6 p.m. to 7 p.m., Town of Empire Town Hall, W3675 Fourth Street Road, Fond du Lac

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

State Rep. Dave Considine (D-Baraboo)

- Thursday, January 10, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m., John Joseph Coffee, 112 Van Buren St., Sauk City

State Rep. Joel Kitchens (R-Sturgeon Bay)

- Friday, January 25, 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., Kewaunee City Hall, Conference Room, 401 5th St., Kewaunee
- Friday, January 25, 12 p.m. to 1:30 p.m., Door County Public Library, Jane Green Room, 107 S. 4th Ave., Sturgeon Bay
- Friday, January 25, 3 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Egg Harbor Library, 7845 Church St., Egg Harbor

STATE LEGISLATION

Bills Circulating for Co-Sponsorship

- [LRB-1110](#). [Memo](#). **Pre-existing Conditions** (Bill sponsor: Andre Jacque) Coverage of individuals with preexisting conditions. Deadline: Monday, January 14, 5 p.m.
- [LRB-1006](#). [Memo](#). **Death by Intoxicated Use of Vehicle** (Bill sponsor, Jim Ott). Mandatory period of confinement for homicide by intoxicated use of a vehicle and providing a criminal penalty. Deadline: Monday, January 14, Noon
- [LRB-1007](#). [Memo](#). **OWI First Offense** (Bill sponsor, Jim Ott) Penalties for offenses related to operating a vehicle while intoxicated and providing a penalty. Deadline: Monday, January 14, Noon
- [LRB-1009](#). [Memo](#). **OWI Mandatory Appearance** (Bill sponsor, Jim Ott) Requiring persons accused of violating traffic laws and ordinances related to driving while intoxicated to appear in person in court. Deadline: Monday, January 14, Noon
- [LRB-1025](#). [Memo](#). **OWI Repeat Offenses** (Bill sponsor, Jim Ott) Committing a fifth or sixth offense related to operating a vehicle while intoxicated and providing a penalty. Deadline: Monday, January 14, Noon

ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINION

Do-Not-Resuscitate Orders in Jail

Attorney General Brad Schimel has issued a formal opinion on the subject of whether county jail staff are required to comply with jail inmates' do-not-resuscitate orders. [Click here](#) to read the opinion

IN THE NEWS

CBS News (1-2-19)

[Big Pharma ushers in new year by raising prices of more than 1,000 drugs](#)

Wisconsin Public Radio (1-1-19)

[Exclusion barring state employees from transgender surgery coverage to be removed Jan. 1](#)

WBAY (1-1-19)

[New grant offers sober life for opioid addicts](#)

Source: Government Policy Solutions, LLC, 14 W. Mifflin St., Suite 206, Madison, WI 53703

Events and Opportunities

[APRN Coalition Lobby Day](#)

Thursday, January 17, 2019

[Nurses Day at the Capitol](#)

Wednesday, February 27, 2019



Support WNA's Lobbying Effort

You can support the passage of WNA's Top Four Legislative Priorities in many ways. One way is by contributing to WNA's Wisconsin Nurse Advocacy Fund. WNA does not have the in-house capacity to effectively lobby on legislative priorities. This continuous effort requires the services of **contract lobbyist**.

WNA's Contract lobbyist provides:

- Day-to-day visibility at the State Capitol.
- Established one-on-one relationships with legislative leaders and other key stakeholders.
- Expertise in developing grass-roots advocacy strategy related to relevant legislation.
- Visibility of WNA's legislative positions and priorities.
- Visibility of the important role nurses have in shaping health policy that is good for nurses and good for patients.

WNA is need of your financial support of our lobbying efforts.

Please join your colleagues in contributing to **WNA's Wisconsin Nurse Advocacy Fund**.

For contributions of \$75.00 or more we will send you a WNA #WINurseAdvocate T-shirt. (Includes the cost of shipping and handling.)

To contribute please go to: <https://www.wisconsinnurses.org/nurse-advocate/>