


**WNA and Policy:  
What We're Doing, How it Works,  
and Who's Involved**

Presenter  
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## Who is WNA?

- WNA is a 111 year old nursing association with membership opened to RN in Wisconsin
- Mission: To be the voice and principal advocate for the nursing profession grounded our core value.
- Structure: The WNA Board of Directors, a corporate body, which serves as the agent of the WNA membership.
- Councils: The Public Policy Council is one of WNA's Councils that addresses policy, legislation and regulation that impact nurses and nursing.

## Who is WNA?

- WNA Public Policy Council
  - Composes of 6 – 10 members who are elected or appointed by the Board.
  - Develop the “WNA Public Policy Agenda (PPA) for the Legislative Biennium. Identifies our priorities and areas of legislation that supports and advances nursing so that patient have access to quality and safe care.
  - Review and decide positions on proposed legislation using the PPA. There are about 2,000 bills introduced in 2020 each health related comprise around 15%. (300 bills)

## WNA Government Affairs Program

- Know the health care agenda of the two legislative parties
- Review legislative proposals
- Take positions – may testify at legislative hearings
- Work with legislators on legislation that we would have developed and passed.
- Form coalitions
- Hire a lobbyist to influence legislation to support work of WNA lobbyist
- Develop grass-roots and “Call to Action” campaigns
- Provide education to nurses and nursing students.
- Communicate to the members

## WNA Legislative Priorities for the next Legislative Biennium

- We have three priorities:
  - APRN Modernization Act – Provide separate licensure to practice as an Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) NP, CNS, CRNA, CNM
  - State funding for scholarships and loan forgiveness for nurses who want to be nurse educators. MSN, DNP, PhD. Monies would be included in the 2021-2023 Wisconsin State Budget.
  - Build our Public Health Infrastructure. Public Health Departments did not have enough staff and resources to adequately address the COVID pandemic. Dollars need to be reinfused to support public health emergencies, prevention and population health.

On with the show!

## Wrap up

## Getting Involved Now and After the Election

- This evening we provided you with information on
  - The importance and value of having nurses being aware of the health policies that impact patient care and nurses who deliver the care.
  - Why nurses decided to run for political office and the speed bumps along the way.
  - Why nurses should know about the candidates that are running for office in their district before the election.
  - Meeting with candidates to educate and inform on the important health issues taking place and nurses can be part of the solution.

## Next Steps

- Decide on the election-related activity you are going to participate in:
  - Help with the 4 nurses' legislative campaigns. Phone bank, door-to-door literature drops, put up campaign signs, or contribute money.
  - Help with your own candidate's campaign
  - Sign-up to staff the election polls.
  - Vote early or the day of
  - Attend WNA's October 28, 2020 [Webinar – Wisconsin Politics Today: Focus on the Elections](#) (no need to register – Workshop attendees will receive an email with link to join the webinar)

Don't forget to fill out tonight's evaluation!

You will receive your certificate of attendance after completing evaluations for BOTH nights.

See you all on December 2, 2020