WHAT IS THE HPLA?

Welcome to the first issue of the national Health Policy and Legislative Affairs (HPLA) committee quarterly newsletter!

The HPLA provides educational opportunities focused on health policy and structural competency and encourages student advocacy through the Mobilize and Activate Manual, expert-led webinars, fellowship programs, and chapter grants.

The HPLA crafts official policy and current event statements related to the mission of the SNMA. Proposed statements are peer-reviewed and become official SNMA policy statements after approval of the Board of Directors. They are then used to represent the position of the SNMA on specific public health issues and highlight major health disparities.

Questions? Don’t hesitate to reach out to us at healthpolicy@snma.org!

POSITION STATEMENTS

CURRENT STATEMENTS:

- Affirmative Action
- Cultural & Structural Competency
- Diversity & Equity
- Environmental Health
- Female Genital Cutting
- Gun Violence
- HIV & AIDS
- Immigrant Health & Immigration Policy
- LGBTQI+ Health
- Police Brutality
- Racism as a Public Health Issue
- Residency Work Hours
- Sickle Cell Disease
- Smoking Prevention
- Substance Use Disorder
- Title Programs
- Trauma-Informed Care
- Universal Healthcare
- Women’s Health

UPCOMING STATEMENTS:

- Mass Incarceration
- Mental Health
- Medical-Legal Partnerships
- Racial and Ethnic Health Disparities
- Affordable Housing
- Drug Schedules

Want to read the position statements yourself? Visit snma.me/hpla to check them out!

CURRENT ISSUES: PUBLIC CHARGE

"Public charge" refers to individuals who are likely to become dependent on the government for assistance and is used as ground for deportation and inadmissibility to citizenship. The final ruling on Public Charge was passed by the Trump administration and took effect as of October 15, 2019.

Governor Gavin Newsom (CA) and Senator Mazie Hirono (HI) have taken positions against this and are working to block the ruling. Hirono states that the new ruling "...would make it harder for low-income immigrants to get green cards or temporary visas."

Hirono’s statement and more information on the public charge rule can be found by clicking the links below:

Public Charge Hirono

UPDATE: Federal Judge blocks Trump Administration public charge ruling:

Federal Judge on Public Charge Ruling