Priority Agenda Items

Safe Staffing

1. **H2339 An Act establishing a commission on quality patient outcomes and professional nursing practice**
   - **Sponsors**: Kay Khan and Susan L. Moran
   - **Summary**: Creates a 17-member bipartisan Commission involving multiple stakeholders to review and make recommendations regarding best nurse staffing practices designed to improve the patient care environment, quality outcomes, and nurse satisfaction.
   - **Bill Text**: [https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2339](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2339)
   - **Status**: Referred to Joint Committee on Public Health
   - **Recommended Position**: Support

Nurse Licensure Compact

2. **S163, An Act relative to nurse licensure compacts**
   - **Sponsor**: Senator Joseph Boncore and Representative Kay Khan
   - **Summary**: Authorizes Massachusetts to participate in the NCSBN Nurse Licensure Compact.
   - **Bill text**: [https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S163](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S163)
   - **Status**: Referred to Joint Committee on Consumer Protection and Professional Licensure
   - **Recommended Position**: Support

Workplace Violence

ANAMASS supports legislation addressing the prevention of workplace violence. There are two separate bills addressing health care employers/facilities to develop plans to prevent workplace violence - HB2465 and HB2506. We have begun to look at the differences between these bills, primarily around who bears responsibility for workplace violence (employer or perpetrator), PTO vs. unpaid leave to seek victims services/legal assistance; otherwise the bills are very similar. ANAMASS is in the process of comparing each bill side by side to determine how best to recommend language which will move these bills forward. Also of note is the DAWA bill and potential to incorporate some of that language in a revised bill.

3. **H 2465 An Act requiring health care employers to develop and implement programs to prevent workplace violence**
   - **Sponsors**: Denise Garlick
Summary: Provides protections for health care employees who are victims of violence or assault and battery.

Bill Text: [https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2465](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2465)

Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security

4. **H 2506 An Act requiring health care facilities to develop and implement programs to prevent workplace violence**

   **Sponsors:** Michael J. Moran and Hannah Kane

   **Summary:** Legislation to require health care facilities to develop and implement programs to prevent workplace violence.

   **Bill Text:** [https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2506](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2506)

   **Status:** Referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security

Also of note:

5. **S. 1185 An Act to establish the Dignity At Work Act (DAWA)**

   **Presenter:** Diana DiZoglio (By Request) Presenting Legislator is not a sponsor of this measure.

   **Summary:** Addresses bullying, workplace violence and harassment as well. This bill has 4 legislators and one citizen that undersigned it. It does hold both the employer and the perpetrator liable. It calls on an administrative judge and not the AG to resolve the issues, and notes a single event is bullying and subject to criminal liability.

   **Bill text:** [https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S1185](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S1185)

   **Status:** Referred to Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development

**Signatory Authority for PMHCNS**

Some members of HPC feel this would be helpful in providing patients with needed care more effectively, as well as support advanced practice nursing. Those who have ties to the psychiatric nurse specialist community are reaching out to them to obtain more information. HPC Member Mary Grant is also working with the mental health coalition and will be reporting to us on any legislation that will be pending from that group.

6. **H2105 An Act providing signature authority for psychiatric nurse mental health clinical nurse specialists.**

   **Sponsors:** Kay Khan

   **Summary:** Includes the role of the psychiatric clinical nurse specialist as an advanced practice registered nurse, inclusive of prescriptive authority. When a law or rule requires a signature, certification, stamp, verification, affidavit or endorsement by a physician, when relating to physical or mental health, that requirement may be fulfilled
by a nurse practitioner or psychiatric nurse mental health clinical specialist practicing under section 80B.

**Bill Text**: [https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2105](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2105)

**Status**: Referred to Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery.

**Hearing Held on 7/19/2021**: Hearing Details - Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use and Recovery ([malegislature.gov](https://malegislature.gov))

**Recommended Position**: Support

ANAMASS Testimony Provided and can be found by Clicking [HERE](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2105)

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**Long Term Care Staffing**

ANAMASS has already provided testimony and supported the regulatory change to improve staffing regulations in long term care. The Revised regulations became effective on 4/1/2021; for more information see [https://www.mass.gov/service-details/standards-for-long-term-care-facilities](https://www.mass.gov/service-details/standards-for-long-term-care-facilities). ANAMASS provided testimony prior to the release of those revised regulations. It would be preferable if the bill language referred to the ANA Principles for Nurse Staffing.

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**7. H 727/S 414 An Act to ensure the quality of care in nursing homes/S 414**

**Sponsors**: Representative Ruth B. Balser / Senator Patricia D. Jehlen

**Summary**: Legislation to improve nursing home job standards and care quality. Each skilled nursing facility shall establish and develop a health care workforce care planning committee within 90 days of the effective date of this act. The membership of the planning committee shall include at least one nurse, one certified nurse assistant, one unlicensed assistive care worker, and one representative for each labor organization representing bargaining units at the facility. The membership of the planning committee shall include no more than the same number of management representatives relative to the number of appointed members of the health care workforce. The committee shall participate in at least one meeting of labor management committee training. Such training shall be provided by an outside training vendor with demonstrated experience in labor-management training. The training vendor shall be selected by majority vote of the planning committee and the facility shall pay for costs of this training. Staffing standards must include the provision of a minimum number of hours of care per resident per day (PPD) of 4.0 hours, of which at least 3.5 hours must be care provided to the resident by a certified nursing assistant.

**Bill Text**: [https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H724/](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H724/)

**Status**: Referred to the Joint committee on Elder Affairs; Hearing held on 6/30/2021

**Recommended Position**: Support with recommendations re: language to refer to the ANA Principles for Nurse Staffing

ANAMASS Testimony Provided.
Also being Tracked
The HPC asks the Board to direct the committee on how many of these initiatives we should seek to use resources to support.

8. H 2249 An Act relative to safe patient handling and mobility in certain health care facilities
   Sponsors: Claire D. Cronin
   Summary: By Mr. Day of Stoneham (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2257) of Vincent Lawrence Dixon for legislation to authorizes the Executive Office of Health and Human Service and the Department of Public Health to create a nursing scholarship program; hall receive up to four (4) years of complete tuition compensation, during their studies in an accredited Bachelor of Science, Nursing Degree Program. Such eligible students, shall, upon graduation, commit to no less than two (2) years of full-time service, in a qualified medical institution, and/or health care facility, within the boundaries of Massachusetts, as may be further defined
   Bill Text: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2249
   Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Public Health
   Recommended Position: Support

9. H 2257 An Act to encourage, and improve, the level of availability of nursing staff
   Presenter: Michael S. Day (By Request)
   Summary: By Mr. Day of Stoneham (by request), a petition (accompanied by bill, House, No. 2257) of Vincent Lawrence Dixon for legislation to authorizes the Executive Office of Health and Human Service and the Department of Public Health to create a nursing scholarship program; hall receive up to four (4) years of complete tuition compensation, during their studies in an accredited Bachelor of Science, Nursing Degree Program. Such eligible students, shall, upon graduation, commit to no less than two (2) years of full-time service, in a qualified medical institution, and/or health care facility, within the boundaries of Massachusetts, as may be further defined
   Bill Text: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2249
   Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Public Health
   Recommended Position: Support with recommendations re: diversity

10. S1165 An Act to Provide Pathways for Certified Nursing Assistants
    Presenter: Harriette L. Chandler
    Referred to Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development
    Summary: Expansion of the types of approved clinical training sites and available slots for those training to become CNAs including but not limited to the establishment of clinical training slots in additional health care settings beyond long term care facilities, the use of clinical training alternatives through simulations and/or virtual reality, and/or a reduction in the numbers of clinical placement hours required for CNA certification, etc.
    Bill Text: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S1165
    Recommended Position: Support with recommendations re: diversity
11. H 2336 An Act creating a nursing advisory board.

**Presenter:** Kay Khan

**Bill Text:** [https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2336](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2336)

**Summary:** Creates an committee of 8 members with a demonstrated background in nursing or health services research representing the continuum of health care settings and services, including long-term institutional care, acute care, community-based care, public health, school care, advanced practice, psychiatric nursing, and higher education in nursing. The members shall be appointed by the governor from a list of 10 individuals recommended by the board of registration in nursing and a list of 10 persons recommended by the Massachusetts Center for Nursing, Inc. The group shall (a) advise the governor and the general court on matters related to the practice of nursing, including the shortage of nurses across the commonwealth in all settings and services; (b) subject to appropriation, develop a research agenda, apply for federal and private research grants, and commission and fund research projects to fulfill the agenda; (c) recommend policy initiatives to the governor and the general court; (d) prepare an annual report and disseminate the report to the governor, the general court, the secretary of health and human services, the director of labor and workforce development and the commissioner of public health; and (e) consider the use of current government resources, including, but not limited to the workforce training fund.

**Status:** Referred to the committee on Public Health

Updated 8/6/2021