ANAMASS Legislative Agenda
2021-2023
192nd General Court

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
   Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Public Health; Hearing 10/28/21
   ANAMASS Testimony: Please click HERE
   Recommended Position: Support

Nurse Licensure Compact
2. S163, An Act relative to nurse licensure compacts/H.1284 An Act relative to Nurse Licensure Compact in MA
   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
   Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Health Care Financing; virtual hearing held 10/19/21; Reporting date extended to 7/31/22
   ANAMASS Testimony: Please click HERE
   Recommended Position: Support

3. S2542 An Act to support military families
   Summary: Authorizes Massachusetts to participate in the NCSBN Nurse Licensure Compact, Physical Therapy Compact, and Psychology Compact, including complete a fingerprint-based check of the state and national criminal history databases. Fingerprints shall be submitted to the identification section of the department of state police for a state criminal history check and forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for a national criminal history check to ensure the suitability of these individuals for licensure.
   Bill Text: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S2542
   Status: 9/27/2021 Senate Referred to the committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs
           12/20/2021 House Reported favorably by committee and referred to the committee on Health Care Financing
           6/2/22 House Reporting date extended to 7/31/22
   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 compared each bill side by side to determine how best to recommend language which will move these bills forward. A joint bill was sponsored by the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security; ANAMASS provided written testimony to the House Committee on Ways and means.

UPDATE:

4. H. 4574, An Act requiring health care employers to develop and implement programs to prevent workplace violence
   Sponsors: Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security
   Summary: Provides protections for health care employees who are victims of violence or assault and battery.
   Bill Text: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H4574
   Status: 3/9/2022 House Reported from the committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security
            3/9/2022 House New draft of H2465
            3/9/2022 House Reported favorably by committee and referred to the committee on Health Care Financing
            5/26/2022 Reporting date extended to Wednesday June 1, 2022
            6/2/2022 House Committee recommended ought to pass and referred to the committee on House Ways and Means
   ANAMASS Testimony: Please click HERE

5. 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
   Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security
   ANAMASS Testimony: Please click HERE

6. 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
   Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security
   ANAMASS Testimony: Please click HERE

7. ANA Massachusetts
   P.O. Box 285
   Milton, MA 02186
   www.anamass.org
8. Also of note:
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
Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Development
Accompanied a study order, see S2816

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.

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 80 B.
Bill Text: 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)
6/2/22 House Reporting date extended to 7/31/22
Recommended Position: Support
ANAMASS Testimony Provided and can be found by Clicking HERE

Mental Health
An Act Addressing Barriers to Care in Mental Health, otherwise known as the Mental Health ABC Act: Addressing Barriers to Care (ABC). The Mental Health ABC Act is the first step towards putting the Commonwealth on a pathway to developing a more integrated system of mental health care delivery so Massachusetts residents can access the care they need and deserve. The Mental Health ABC Act removes barriers to timely quality care, provides the state with more effective tools to enforce existing mental health parity laws, and invests in the mental and behavioral health workforce pipeline. This legislation is driven by the recognition that mental health is as important as physical health for every resident of the Commonwealth and should be treated as such. **The bill has been redrafted and amended multiple times!**
Recommended Position: Support
ANAMASS Testimony Provided and can be found by Clicking HERE

CURRENT Bill numbers and versions:

10. S2584 An Act Addressing Barriers to Care in Mental Health.
   Sponsors: Cindy Friedman, Julian Cyr (originally S.1276)
   Bill Text: Bill S.2584 (malegislature.gov)
   Status: Unanimously engrossed in Senate 6/16/22

11. H 4891 An Act Addressing Barriers to Care in Mental Health.
    Bill Text: Bill H.4891 (malegislature.gov)
    Status: Text of an amendment, recommended by the committee on Ways and Means, to the Senate Bill addressing barriers to care for mental health (Senate, No. 2584), as further amended by the House. June 16, 2022

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. ANAMASS provided testimony prior to the release of those revised regulations Please Click HERE. It would be preferable if the bill language referred to the ANA Principles for Nurse Staffing.

12. H 4780 An Act to improve quality and oversight of long-term care
    Sponsor: Joint Committee on Elder Affairs
    Bill Text: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H4780
    Status: Referred to House Committee on Ways and Means 5/16/2022
    Reported favorably by committee and referred to the committee on Health Care Financing
    6/6/2022 Recommended bill ought to pass and referred to the committee on House Ways and Means
    Recommended Position: Support with recommendations re: language to refer to the ANA Principles for Nurse Staffing

13. 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/ Bill S.414 (malelegislature.gov)

Status: Referred to the Joint committee on Elder Affairs; Hearing held on 6/30/2021
Accompanied a new draft, H4780
Recommended Position: Support with recommendations re: language to refer to the ANA Principles for Nurse Staffing

ANAMASS Testimony Provided and can be found by Clicking HERE:

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.

14. H 4389 An Act relative to safe patient handling and mobility in certain health care facilities
   Sponsors: Joint Committee on Public Health
   Summary:
   Bill Text: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2249
   Status: 1/13/2022 New Draft of H 2249 Reported favorably by Joint Committee on Public Health and referred to the committee on Health Care Financing
   6/6/2022 House Accompanied by S2613
   6/6/2022 House Committee recommended bill ought to pass and referred to the committee on House Ways and Means
   ANAMASS Testimony please click HERE
   Recommended Position: Support

15. H 2249 An Act relative to safe patient handling and mobility in certain health care facilities
    Sponsors: Claire D. Cronin
    Summary:
    Bill Text: https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2249
    Status: Referred to Joint Committee on Public Health
    ANAMASS Testimony please click HERE
    Recommended Position: Support

16. 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/H2257](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/H2257)

**Status:** Referred to Joint Committee on Public Health 2/17/22 Reporting date extended to 12/31/22

**Recommended Position:** Support with recommendations re: diversity

17. **S1165 An Act to Provide Pathways for Certified Nursing Assistants**

**Presenter:** Harriette L. Chandler

**Bill Text:** [https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S1165](https://malegislature.gov/Bills/192/S1165)

**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.

**Status:**
- 3/3/2022 Senate Bill reported favorably by committee and referred to the committee on [Senate Ways and Means](https://malegislature.gov/Committees/Senate/)

**Recommended Position:** Support with recommendations re: diversity

18. **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](https://malegislature.gov/Committees/House/)
- Reporting date extended to 12/31/22