

Legislative Committee Report
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Nurse Practitioner Payment Parity

HB 4010 did not pass last session. It made it out of the House Health Services committee, only to be sent to rules committee, effectively killing it. Some of our supporters actually voted it out to committee. In April, the legislative committee met at the ONA office. There, we discussed the various bills, and where to go from here. NPO will be crafting a nurse practitioner survey to be done later this year. We need a better understanding of the scope of the problem of NP parity. The problem is many NP's don't know how they are being reimbursed. Employed NP's are often salaried. So perhaps we can find a way to get better data and see how this is impacting NP's, and whom, i.e., urban vs. rural, etc. Certainly some independent NP's are affected, and they'd likely know how much and by whom. So we need to think about whether we want to pursue this again next session. With health care transformation changing reimbursement structures to pay-for-performance schemes, we'd better be present at "the table" where reimbursement is being debated. We will next meet at a time TBA, certainly around the October conference, if not sooner.