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# Oregon Legislative Report

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## Payment Parity for Nurse Practitioners

In 2009, one major health plan significantly reduced reimbursement for mental health services provided by non-physician providers and subsequently other plans further reduced reimbursement. NPO/ONA is working with other provider groups and legislators to address this situation. We know that the capacity of our mental health service system is limited and reimbursement is a factor in access to care. We must be able to provide data to the Legislature which shows that NPs in psychiatric-mental health care for patients who are as complex as those cared for by psychiatrists and that the therapy is similar.

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- FOR PSYCHIATRIC MENTAL HEALTH NPs:  
Please assist us by completing the survey linked from the ONA and NPO websites or completing a paper copy at the Government Relations table.
  - FOR ALL NPs:  
Please sign up at the Government Relations table to contact your legislators during the 2011 Legislative session urging them to support this legislation.
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## Incentives for Nurse Practitioners

A number of state operated programs to incentivize Nurse Practitioners working in underserved areas will be up for funding reauthorization during the 2011 Legislative session. With the state budget facing an over \$2 billion shortfall going into next year, it is important that we demonstrate the need for these programs to continue to provide access to health care in underserved areas:

- Loan Repayment for Primary Care Providers working in underserved areas
- Rural Practitioner Tax Credits
- Rural Medical Malpractice Reinsurance Program

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PLEASE SIGN UP at the Government Relations table to contact your legislators during the 2011 Legislative session urging them to support funding of these existing programs.

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