



ANTI-HARASSMENT PROTECTIONS FOR NURSES

Policy Position | 2026-2027 Policy Council

INTRODUCTION

Healthcare workers face a significant amount of workplace violence and hostility, which sometimes follows them home when disgruntled patients, patient family members, or others stalk the healthcare worker, harass, or target them at their home address.

Members of the Texas Nurses Association (TNA) consistently express concern over workplace violence.

RECENT EFFORTS TO ADDRESS WORKPLACE VIOLENCE

In the 88th Legislative Session, the Texas Legislature passed SB 240 to prevent workplace violence and provide workplace protections for healthcare workers, as well as SB 840, which increased the penalty for assaulting a healthcare worker in hospital from a misdemeanor to a felony.

TNA held a workplace violence prevention summit in 2024 to review implementation of these laws. The event hosted healthcare representatives as well as law enforcement representatives. While discussing the complex security challenges healthcare workers face, law enforcement representatives in attendance suggested healthcare workers seek privacy protections afforded to other public servants to reduce targeted harassment.

POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

TNA recommends adding healthcare workers to Section 25.025 of the Tax Code, which conceals the addresses of individuals with a high propensity to be targeted for stalking, harassment, or violence.