

Texas Nurses Association Nursewatch

NLAC Update

Representatives from 20 nursing organizations convened in mid-May for the NLAC Spring meeting, which provided an opportunity to meet fellow NLAC members, hear about issues our fellow nursing organizations and associations are concerned with, and learn about the importance of promoting advocacy to our members to increase the odds of NLAC's legislative agenda succeeding in 2019.

- After 27 years fighting for all Texas APRNs through improved legislation and common-sense regulation, CNAP shared that it will be dissolving at the close of 2018. [Read CNAP's message.](#)



Representatives for TxCNS, TxANA, TSNO, TONE, TOADN, TNA and TCORN listen as nursing organizations share issues of concern as the 86th Legislative Session approaches.



TNA Director of Govt. Affairs Andrew Cates talks about the current political landscape at the NLAC Spring Meeting on May 19, 2018.

- Mark Majek, Texas BON, reported on the results of the last legislative session's Sunset Review and issues that the board is anticipating for the 86th legislative session.
- TNA Director of Government Affairs Andrew Cates led NLAC through a recap of the last legislative session and laid out the political landscape as we approach next session.

We appreciate your participation and look forward to our meeting in the fall!



Payment for the 2019-2020 NLAC Membership term is due **Jan. 1, 2019**. Invoices will be emailed to NLAC Representative Designees in November 2018.



Election and Political Updates

ELECTIONS

More than 30 races concluded in the May 22 runoff, and the overall consensus is that the moderates in the Republican party, backed by business groups and outgoing speaker Joe Straus, generally won out over the more conservative candidates backed by Empower Texans and the Freedom Caucus.

This will set the stage for a November battle between Democrats hungry to flip seats in the House and Senate and mostly moderate Republicans who will likely have a much easier time than their challengers convincing the state to remain red.

POLITICS

This [article](#) further explains the potential upcoming shift in electoral politics in the coming years. The Maverick PAC created by Ted Cruz is now dominated by millennials and younger political operatives seeking to capitalize on recent studies which show that millennials are increasingly trending towards the Republican Party against conventional expectations about the youth trending more liberal.

▶ Bookmark texastribune.org to get the latest political news!



After the Santa Fe school shooting and national call for a political response, Governor Abbott laid out a 22-point plan to address school violence and mental health. The Texas House and Senate leapt into action and announced special charges for multiple committees:

Committees on Public Education and Committee on Public Health (Joint Charge)

“Consider testimony provided at the May 17 House Public Health Committee hearing regarding improving mental health services for children. Identify specific strategies that would enhance overall school safety. Study ways to help parents, youth and primary care providers support school personnel in their efforts to identify and intervene early when mental health problems arise. In addition to school-based trauma-informed programs and those that treat early psychosis, consider the benefits of universal screening tools and expanding the Child Psychiatry Access Program (CPAP). Make recommendations to enhance collaboration among the Health and Human Services Commission, the Texas Education Agency, local mental health authorities, and education service centers.”

Committee on Appropriations

“Examine the availability of federal funding and Governor’s Criminal Justice grants that may directly or indirectly improve school safety. Evaluate the potential costs of proposals identified by the Governor and House Committees related to improving access to mental health services for children, improved school safety, and enhanced firearm safety.”

Committee on Public Education

“Review the effectiveness of schools’ current multi-hazard emergency operation plans. Determine any areas of deficiency and make recommendations to ensure student safety. Research violence prevention strategies, such as threat assessment, that are available for school personnel to identify students who might pose a threat to themselves or others. Identify resources and training available to schools to help them develop intervention plans that address the underlying problems that caused the threatening behavior.”

▶ Want more like this? Join TNA for more in-depth updates and access to member-only benefits like education and advocacy toolkits.

Upcoming Events



NLAC Fall Meeting

Saturday, Nov. 10, 2018
10 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Austin, TX

Details coming soon

HEALTHCARE

- The Texas Medical Association's Distinguished Speaker Series on The State of Maternal Health in Texas, takes place on **June 28** in Austin. Lunch is complimentary, but RSVPs must be received by June 18 and may be made by contacting Jessica Boston (jessica.boston@texmed.org).
- The Healthier Texas Summit takes place **Oct. 25-26, 2018** in Austin. The two-day event will bring together Texas health innovators and champions to share best practices, discuss current trends and breakthroughs, and much more. [Click this link for details and to register.](#)
- TNA Nurse Day at the Capitol is on **Feb. 18-19, 2019**. Mark your calendars and stay tuned for more information!



UPCOMING HOUSE and SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Committees will hear invited and public testimony. Information subject to change. Check the [Texas Legislature's website](#) for updates.

June 20 – House Human Services – 9:00 a.m.

The committee will meet to continue hearings on Interim Charge 2, an overview of Medicaid managed care. Also, to discuss recent information reported by the Dallas Morning News regarding Medicaid managed care and the Health and Human Services Commission.

June 27 – House Appropriations: Subcommittee on Article II – 10:20 a.m.

The House Committees on Appropriations, Subcommittee on Art. II and General Investigating and Ethics will meet in a joint hearing to consider the following interim charges: Appropriations Interim Charge 18 / General Investigating & Ethics Interim Charge 10: Monitor the agencies and programs under the Committees' jurisdiction and oversee the implementation of relevant legislation passed by the 85th Legislature. Oversight of the Texas Health & Human Services Commission's management of Medicaid managed care contracts.



If your organization or association is having an event open to the public, send the information to TNA Government Affairs Coordinator [Cathy White](#) for inclusion in upcoming issues of Nursewatch.

Texas Register: Rules and Regulations

JUNE 8 TEXAS REGISTER

Texas Health & Human Services Commission - The Commission proposes amendments to Rule 392.203, concerning Staff Qualifications. The amendments provide clarity for contractors regarding program manager requirements, and permit clinics to allow any board-certified behavior analyst (BCBA), in addition to the program manager, to provide to or oversee training of direct delivery staff.



[Read June 8 online.](#)

Rule 133.49 - The Commission proposes an amendment to Rule 133.49, concerning Reporting Requirements, in relation to requirements for hospitals to report donations of fetal tissue and abortion complications. The proposed amendment updates references to statutory reporting requirements; adds a subsection which requires hospitals that donate human fetal tissue to submit an annual report to HHSC that includes the specific type of fetal tissue donated and the institution of higher learning that received the donation by January 31st of the following year; and a subsection which requires hospitals to comply with the abortion complication reporting requirements in 25 TAC Chapter 139.

Rule 135.26 - The Commission proposes an amendment to §135.26, concerning Reporting Requirements, in relation to requirements for ambulatory surgical centers (ASCs) to report donations of fetal tissue and abortion complications. The proposed amendment adds to subsection (d) references to the abortion reporting requirements of Texas Health and Safety Code; deletes a reference to a repealed statute in subsection (e); and adds subsection (g), requiring ASCs that donate human fetal tissue to submit an annual report to HHSC that includes the specific type of fetal tissue donated and the institution of higher learning that received the donation by January 31st of the following year.

Rule 137.54 - The Commission proposes an amendment to Rule 137.54, concerning Reporting and Filing Requirements, in relation to the donation of fetal tissue by birthing centers. The purpose of the amendment is to implement Senate Bill (SB) 8, passed last session, which mandates that an authorized facility licensed under Texas Health and Safety Code, Chapter 244, shall submit an annual report to HHSC that includes for each donation the specific type of fetal tissue donated and the accredited public or private institution of higher learning that received the donation.

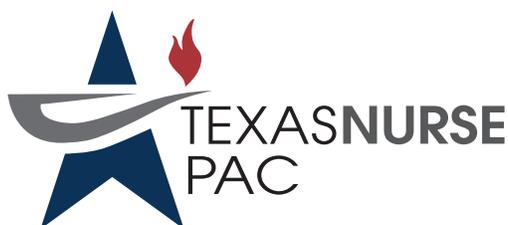
JUNE 1 TEXAS REGISTER

Board of Nursing - Proposed Rules

Rule 214.8 - The proposal clarifies that the Nursing Student Handbook must include policies to ensure students fulfill requirements for obtaining criminal history record information in compliance with the Occupations Code §301.257. Further, the proposal re-iterates that processes must be in place for policy development, implementation, and enforcement.



[Read June 1 online.](#)



Support our efforts at the Texas Capitol from the comfort of home. Join the growing list of nurses that are investing in their profession and their future by supporting Texas Nurse PAC with a contribution.

▶ Go to www.texasnurses.org and click on Texas Nurse PAC under the Advocacy tab to get started.

Rule 214.9 - This section addresses the program of study. First, the proposal and clarifies that this guideline outlines the effective use of standardized examinations as an evaluation of student progress. The proposal clarifies that a major curriculum change includes the addition of tracks or alternate programs of study, including advanced placement or Dual-Credit High School programs that provide educational mobility, and revisions in program hours.

Rule 214.10 - This section addresses clinical learning experiences. The proposal clarifies that, when a high-fidelity simulation laboratory is used to meet clinical learning objectives, the faculty must be trained in planning and guiding the experience and in debriefing and evaluating students

Rule 214.11 -. The proposal re-iterates that an appropriately equipped skills laboratory must be provided to accommodate the maximum number of students allowed for the program and to provide a learning environment where students can receive instruction and demonstrate all basic nursing skills

Rule 215.3 - The proposed amendments to this section clarify the Board's processes for the submission of a new professional nursing education program proposal.

Rule 215.8 - The proposed changes to this section relate to a program's Nursing Student Handbook. The proposal clarifies that the Handbook must include policies to ensure students fulfill requirements for obtaining criminal history record information in compliance with the Occupations Code §301.257. Further, the proposal reiterates that processes must be in place for policy development, implementation, and enforcement.

Rule 215.9 - This section addresses the program of study. First, tThe proposal provides clarification regarding the selection and organization of the learning experiences in the curriculum, reiterating that the curriculum must provide continuity, sequence, and integration of learning. The proposal also clarifies that a major curriculum change includes the addition of transition course(s), tracks/alternative programs of study, including MEEP and Dual-Credit High School programs, that provide educational mobility. Finally, the proposal eliminates unnecessary language from the rule of the text, as the guidelines appropriately addresses the necessary components of the proposal.

Rule 215.10 - The proposal clarifies that when a high-fidelity simulation laboratory is used to meet clinical learning objectives, the faculty must be trained in planning and guiding the experience and in debriefing and evaluating students. Further, the proposal clarifies that programs may use up to 50% simulation activities in each clinical course and reiterates that clinical learning experiences must be designed for students to meet clinical objectives in all clinical activities.

Rule 215.11 - The proposal reiterates that an appropriately equipped skills laboratory must be provided to accommodate the maximum number of students allowed for the program and to provide a learning environment where students can receive instruction and demonstrate all basic nursing skills

Rule 217.14 - The Board's proposed changes relate to Registered Nurses Performing Radiologic Procedures. The amendments are being proposed under the authority of the Occupations Code Chapter 601 and are necessary for consistency with those statutory mandates.

Rule 217.23 - The Board proposes new § rule 217.23, relating to Balance Billing. The new section is being proposed under the authority of the Insurance Code Chapter 1467 and is necessary for compliance with those statutory mandates.

Dept. of State Health Services - Adopted Rules

Rule 97.136 - The Executive Commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission, on behalf of the Department of State Health Services (DSHS), adopts an amendment to Rule 97.136, concerning Prophylaxis against Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

MAY 25 REGISTER



[Read May 25 online.](#)

Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board – Adopted Rules 5.41 - 5.43, 5.45, 5.46, 5.48, 5.50 - 5.52, 5.54 - The THECB adopted amendments to rules §§5.41 - 5.43, 5.45, 5.46, 5.48, 5.50 - 5.52, 5.54 concerning Approval of New Academic Programs at Public Universities, Health-Related Institutions, and Review of Existing Degree Programs.

The intent of the amendments was to update the criteria for the approval of new degree and certificate programs to better reflect the priorities of the state strategic plan for higher education, streamline the review of existing graduate programs, and delete an outdated section of criteria regarding the approval of baccalaureate programs at selected community colleges.

MAY 18 TEXAS REGISTER



[Read May 18 online.](#)

Adopted Rules

Introduction - The Board of Nursing adopted new rule 217.16, concerning Minor Incidents, in conjunction with the repeal of current §217.16. The new section clarifies much of the minor incident reporting process.

MAY 11 TEXAS REGISTER



[Read May 11 online.](#)

Proposed Rules

Texas Health and Human Services Commission - The Commission proposes new Rule 370.12, concerning Maternal Depression Screening.

Rule 370.12 - This new rule is necessary to comply with House Bill (HB) 2466, passed last session, which requires HHSC to adopt rules regarding coverage in the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) for a maternal depression screening for an enrollee's mother. The proposed rule is based on clinical and empirical evidence provided that recommends screening mothers for maternal depression as a best practice for primary care pediatricians caring for infants and their families.

MAY 4 TEXAS REGISTER



[Read May 4 online.](#)

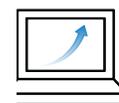
Adopted Rules

Board of Nursing

Rule 214.9 - The Board adopts amendments to Rule 214.9 (b), concerning Program of Study. The amendments are being adopted under the authority of the Occupations Code §301.151 and are necessary to correct an inadvertent deletion of language from the text of the rule that occurred when this section was proposed for amendment and adopted in the February 23, 2018 issue of the Texas Register. The deletion was unintended.

TNA Learning Curve

The Texas Nurses Association recently launched the TNA Learning Curve, an on-demand source for continuing nursing education activities. If your organization or association is interested in including your CNE activities on the TNA Learning Curve, please contact **Andrew Cates** for details.



TEXAS NURSES
ASSOCIATION

Learning
Curve