



**NLAC Update: JANUARY 2020**



***Happy New Year!***

The 2020 election cycle has officially begun! What is your organization doing to

encourage membership to get involved?

TNA's Government Affairs Committee is reaching out to its 2019 Legislator Champions in the new year. Nine Texas legislators who supported nursing legislation last session are being recognized. These legislators, Republicans and Democrats, alike, worked with TNA, NLAC and their nursing constituents last session to champion bills in the House and Senate that protect nurses and funding for nurse education, improve the working environment for nurses, and allow APRNs to practice to the full scope of their education.

As we head to the March primaries, TNA will be encouraging its members to reach out to current state legislators and candidates running for state office, to introduce themselves and offer their expertise on upcoming health care issues that may affect the nursing profession. To that end, TNA's grassroots liaisons are scheduled to meet at the end of January to kick off a year of legislative and political advocacy that will include engaging and educating their fellow nurses on candidates for state office that value the influence of nurses when considering the state's health care concerns.

*How does your organization encourage advocacy among its members? Do you have resources to share? What common fears do your members have about contacting their state lawmakers to discuss issues related to nursing and health care in Texas?*

Please send your suggestions or advocacy resources to Cathy White at [cwhite@texasnurses.org](mailto:cwhite@texasnurses.org). We want to make sure Texas nurses are informed, educated and prepared to assist state lawmakers with decisions that affect the profession and Texas patients.



As the new year kicks off, please welcome TAVNE's new representatives to NLAC - Kimberly Hebert and Nicole Millikan. NLAC looks forward to working with you

both as we develop the nursing legislative agenda for 2021!



*\*\* Follow us on Twitter at @TXNursesLege, the twitter handle for Nursewatch.*

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## Capitol Brief Update

by Kevin C. Stewart, II

### Legislature

Not much has happened since the last edition of Nursewatch. Late December through early January is typically a slow time, as members spend the holidays in their districts. Although, now that the holidays are over, you should start seeing campaign season start to gain momentum. Now is a great time to meet with legislators and candidates to discuss the election, their agenda, and issues that impact your practice. Building these relationships during the interim is key to advancing your agenda during the legislative session.

### Texas Medical Board

If you recall, nursing organizations, as well as other stakeholders, were fighting a handful of proposed rules that would have negatively impacted nursing practice. This includes Rule 193.5, *Physician Liability for Delegated Acts and Enforcement*, Rule 193.13, *Delegation to Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists*, Rule 193.17, *Nonsurgical Medical Cosmetic Procedures*, and Rule 193.21, *Delegation Related to Radiological Services*.

The Texas Medical Board met on Dec. 6. We are happy to announce that none of these rules were adopted. During the discussion, Medical Board staff mentioned that all of the rules had over one hundred comments and some had over one thousand. Further, the Federal Trade Commission submitted comments on anti-competitive practices generally and Rule 193.13 specifically. This was truly an incredible feat, and we appreciate all who participated.

However, the fight is not over yet. Technically, the proposed rules were not

formally withdrawn, so they could be discussed and adopted at the next meeting on March 6. We will be monitoring the situation closely and providing updates as needed. If the rules are not adopted at the next meeting, they will be automatically withdrawn in early May.



Bookmark [Texas Tribune](#) to get the latest political news!

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## Texas Register: Rules and Regulations

There were no pertinent nursing rules or regulations in December.

### Remember ...

- You can find the [Texas Register](#) on the Texas [Secretary of State](#) website, where ALL the rule proposals and adoptions from the Texas BON and other state regulatory agencies are updated weekly on Fridays and published. *Nursewatch* will print some of the more pertinent updates to nursing rules and regulations but you can delve deeper into current and past issues of the Texas Register at your leisure on the S.O.S. website.

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## Upcoming Events

- [TNA Nurse Talks Empowerment Series](#) - The Impact of Artificial Intelligence on Nursing, 6 p.m. CST Jan. 9. Information available [here](#). This web series is designed to bring more nurses into conversations and inform TNA's decision-making processes and policy priorities. CE available for this session.
- **Texas Tribune: The Future of Health Care**, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. CST Jan. 29 at Edinburg Conference Center at Renaissance. Free. Get details and register [here](#).
- **TNA 2020 Policy Summit and House of Delegates: Building Nursing Influence Through Policy Capacity** - June 5-6, 2020, Houston. Early-bird

registration is now open through March 31, 2020! Details and registration [here](#).

*If your NLAC organization/association is having an open event or you know of a relevant activity/event, please send the information to TNA Government Affairs Coordinator [Cathy White](#) for inclusion in upcoming issues of **Nursewatch**.*



Election season is here, and now is when your investment helps the most! Strengthen nursing's influence with the Texas Legislature by contributing to the Texas Nurse PAC today. [Invest](#) in your profession. [Invest](#) in your peers. [Invest in the Texas Nurse PAC today!](#)

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