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2026 NOVA Legislative Priority Goals

The Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs (NOVA) is a professional organization for nurses employed by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Our members are the leaders and healthcare providers who take care of Veterans. The following legislative priority goals identify areas we feel are critical to continue providing the best care and services for our Nation's Veterans.

Funding:

- Provide sufficient and timely funding to maintain ongoing access to care and support the hiring of healthcare staff, so that the VHA continues to operate effectively for our Veterans.
- Ensure any legislation or funding of Community Care does not diminish the high standard of care provided by the VHA to Veterans and certify that CCN providers adhere to equivalent quality and training requirements.
- Evaluate, plan, and budget to ensure VA facilities are modernized to meet the needs of Veterans.

VHA Reorganization

- Evaluate the proposed reorganization for enhanced coordination and transparency, ensuring that leadership and staff are informed and equipped to efficiently meet the needs of veterans.

Staffing/Retention and Recruitment

- Review staff levels and hire in all settings so VA can deliver timely access for all Veterans seeking care.
- Conduct yearly salary assessments for the nursing workforce (APRN, RN, LPN) to ensure that VHA remains competitive within local markets.
- Continue to support and revise qualifications levels for LPNs.
- Ensure entire workforce is offered ongoing opportunities for career advancement and professional development by providing continuing education and tuition support for ALL levels of nursing.
- Sustain continuous funding for existing RN and NP residency programs and include essential infrastructure to support the growth of future nursing workforce.
- Implement and support Full Practice Authority for CRNAs.