



February Legislative Update

SENATE BILL S769 / ASSEMBLY BILL S6958

Dear Colleagues,

The legislative session is off to a fast and furious start! I invite you to take a few minutes to read the latest news from the Government Relations Committee.

Simulation Day & Legislative Meetings in Albany During CRNA Week

We made our presence known in Albany during CRNA week. On January 23, we talked with lawmakers about the important role that CRNAs play in many areas, but with a specific highlight on the maternity/obstetric area. As we noted last month, for those that are unaware, there have been several recent announcements about the closure of birthing centers around the State, and these closures are related to a lack of providers. We highlighted how recognizing CRNAs is one of the most important ways to help address the worker shortage and [left this flyer with every legislative office](#).

While we were in Albany, we also had a number of key legislative meetings, including with the chairs of the Assembly and Senate Higher Education Committees. We continued to discuss our scope of practice bill with them and continued to talk next steps and made clear that our goal is to get our bill passed this session. We will continue to talk with the chairs and leadership in both houses. We also talked with our bill sponsors while we were in town and thanked them once again for their leadership and dedication to our issues.

State Education Department Technical Review

Our conversations continue with the State Education Department. We had a very productive meeting in January to discuss some further technical changes needed to our scope bill. We have made some additional changes to reflect their feedback and will wait to hear back from them. We were pleased with overall feedback and believe we are close to having final technical sign off on our legislation, which is important for final passage of our legislation.

Framing the Conversation: Issues of Importance to Lawmakers

Of critical importance to many lawmakers right now is access to care in rural hospitals and the healthcare workforce shortage. Learn more about how we are responding:

- NYSANA President Mark Blazey's [testimony before the assembly committee](#) reviewing the healthcare work force shortage
- NYSANA President Mark Blazey's [letter to the editor of the Time's Union](#)
- NYSANA Fact Sheet about [CRNA's roles in labor and deliver in New York State](#).

Advocacy Day May 7, 2024

As I hope you already know from our last update, the NYSANA Advocacy Day will be on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 during National Nurses Week. We are going to be doing things a bit differently this year but look forward to having a strong presence in Albany. We will be joined in Albany that day by several other nursing groups, who will also be in town, and we will all be focused on issues of importance to the profession. Information on registration and logistics will be posted on the website in early March.

District Meetings can be scheduled now --close to home

As a reminder, while we are hard at work in Albany, we can still use your help. Scheduling time to speak to your elected officials about the importance of CRNAs is vital, and the most effective meetings can be scheduled in the area where you live. For those who are willing, we have talking points and information available on the members-only section of the website to help you learn how to schedule a district office meeting and reach out at a local level. In addition, we can work to see if a member of the GRC or the Board can join you for your meeting. If you are interested in doing a district meeting, please reach out to me.

Members-Only Advocacy Resources

Thank you again for everything you do and let us know if you need anything,



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