



## **2017-2018 Advocacy Platform**

The North Dakota Nurses Association promotes legislation, policies, and strategies that help meet North Dakota's most pressing needs.

- Support efforts to attract and retain more nurses to the profession and to the state (Workforce Development).
  - Support efforts to improve Workforce Development including improved Loan Reimbursement, Faculty Loan Forgiveness, and growth of Educational programs.
- Promote awareness and prevention of Workplace Violence in healthcare settings
  - Through legislation, develop broader protections from violence for workers in healthcare institutions.
  - Support efforts to prevent Workplace Violence including improved behavioral health programs.
- Support Population Health focused legislation and activities including, but not limited to, Obesity Prevention & Treatment, Substance Abuse Prevention & Treatment – including drugs, alcohol and tobacco, Access to Behavioral Health Services, and Access to Early Childhood Preventative Interventions – including increased access to School Nursing
  - Support efforts to improve Behavioral Health programs and assistance.
    - Support improved education and increased capacity for patient access.
    - Develop evidence based interventions to combat the growing opioid crisis.
  - Collaborating with agencies such as American Lung Association for decreased tobacco use.
    - Tobacco is a worldwide epidemic that requires the leadership and active involvement of nurses.
    - All nurses and nursing organizations are actively involved in developing and supporting local, state, and national legislative and regulatory efforts that:
      - Restrict the direct and indirect marketing of tobacco products, including those products that might be launched in the future, and those making unproven health claims.
      - Increase the price of tobacco products through taxation and allocate part of the revenue to tobacco-control programs and tobacco-related research.

- North Dakota has the 48<sup>th</sup> lowest cigarette tax of all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

State	Tax per Pack	Ranking
New York	\$4.35	1 <sup>st</sup>
Minnesota	\$3.00	8 <sup>th</sup>
Montana	\$1.70	21 <sup>st</sup>
South Dakota	\$1.53	26 <sup>th</sup>
<i>Average</i>	<i>\$1.65</i>	
Wyoming	\$0.60	43 <sup>rd</sup>
<b>North Dakota</b>	<b>\$0.44</b>	<b>48<sup>th</sup></b>
Missouri	\$0.17	51 <sup>st</sup>

- Advocating for increased access to School Nursing.
  - Students' health and health needs must be addressed in schools to achieve optimum learning.
  - Supports the assignment and daily availability of a registered school nurse for the central management and implementation of school health services at the recommended ratio of one nurse for every 750 students, with an ultimate goal of at least one nurse in every school (ANA, 2007).
  - On any given weekday, as much as 20% of the combined US population of children and adults can be found in schools (AHA, 2004). To best serve the health needs of students and staff in educational settings, ANA supports a collaborative school health model which requires the cooperation and participation of the school nurse, students, families, teachers, school administrators and staff, other health care professionals, and the community.
- Continue to advocate for increased access to professional nursing education and Nurses working in the full authority of their practice.
  - Support higher education for nurses. We need fundamental wide-range planning for changes in the education and deployment of the nursing workforce.
  - Reduce regulatory barriers, enabling Registered Nurses (RNs) to practice to the full extent of their education and training. Support compact licensure for Registered Nurses and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs)
  - Revise scope-of-practice laws that discourage full use of advanced practice nurses, pharmacists, and other allied health professionals (collaborative practice agreements, supervisory requirements, prescribing limitations).
- Promote programs that support improved Care Delivery across the state of North Dakota.
  - Continue support of technologies, including Telehealth to support expanded access to services.
  - Support new and evolving roles as long as there is role clarity, appropriate education and training, appropriate oversight and that nurses are recognized for their role as care coordinators, which may necessitate removal of the delegation rules in the Nurse Practice Act that limit nurses ability to exercise their judgment.
- Collaborating in the study of the Community paramedic pilot to ensure safe, gap free care.
  - Support the educational programs to provide nurses to educate Community Paramedics
  - Support the development of the supervision requirements to include primary care, rather than emergency medicine