



WEEKLY LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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The second session of the 110th General Assembly is well underway now with several committees starting to hear bills and presentations. As in the past, TNA's Government Affairs and Health Policy Committee will begin bills review and make recommendations. An updated list, along with TNA's position, will be distributed as soon as possible to all TNA members.

A legislative priority for TNA this session is the continuation of support for passage and funding of HB503/SB534. As a reminder, if enacted, this bill will call for an increase in funding full-time public school nurse positions from one for every 3,000 students to one for every 750 students. As you may recall, last year the House Education Administration and Planning Subcommittee deferred HB 503, to a study for more discussion. In late October of 2017, House Education Administration and Planning along with the Education Instruction and Program Committee, met jointly to hear presentation by Representative David Hawk (house bill sponsor) and Nathan James, Director of Legislation and External Affairs for the State Board of Education, who presented the BEP Review Committee funding recommendation in support of reducing school nurse ration in Tennessee. After presentation, the bill remains in subcommittee and will be calendared this session.

TNA met with Rep. Hawk and was reassured of his commitment to continue working with the legislature on efforts of having HB 503 funded and passage of the bill. To assist TNA's members with effective advocacy of the issue, TNA's Government Affairs and Health Policy Committee developed talking points to be distributed to the membership. Please feel free to contact members of the various committees as well as your own local legislator, as the bill works its way through the legislative process.

As in the past, TNA will keep the TNA membership informed, by the distribution of a weekly report of bills and other legislative issues and when necessary legislative alerts will be sent to out. Please visit TNA's Government Affairs page at www.tnaonline.org, for other legislative information and contact TNA with any questions or concern as we work through this legislative session.