10:00 a.m. – 10:30 am  
Call to Order – Tina Gerardi, TNA Executive Director
Pledge of Allegiance – Tina Gerardi
Welcome – Haley Vance, TNA President
Welcome – Austin Smith, TSNA East Regional Director
Recognition of school attendees - Austin Smith

10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.  
PANEL OF PEERS
   Loretta Bond
   Angela Heatherly
   Connie McCarter
   Haley Vance
   Representative Robin Smith (Tentative)

11:15 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
Break

11:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.  
Legislative Process and Bills Review
   Kathleen Murphy, TNA Director of Government
   Affairs/Chief Lobbyist
   Tina Gerardi

12:00 p.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
Q and A

12:15 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Legislative Role Play/ Q&A
   Tina Gerardi
   Kathleen Murphy
   Haley Vance

12:30  
Senate Health & Welfare Committee

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.  
Attendees visit Legislators and/or Legislative meetings/sessions
The Tennessee Nurses Association is accredited as a provider of continuing education by the South Carolina Nurses Association, an accredited approver by the American Nurses Credentialing Center’s Commission on Accreditation. This session is awarded 1.5 contact hours. In order to receive the contact hours, you may not miss more than 5 minutes of this session. At the conclusion of the summit, please complete the evaluation form and leave the appropriate copy in the marked box in the registration area.
2019 Bills of Interest
Summary with Amendment: Prohibits the use of the title “nurse” or any other title, abbreviation, or designation in connection with the person’s name, occupation, or profession, that indicates or implies that the person is a practicing nurse, unless the person is actively licensed or certified by the Board of Nursing (BON). Authorizes the BON to petition any circuit or chancery court having jurisdiction to enjoin any person in violation of using the title “registered nurse”, “licensed practical nurse” or the title “nurse”.

TNA Position: SUPPORT Puts more “teeth” into the current title protection, allows for penalties for illegal use of the title nurse.

Senate Status: Senate Health & Welfare Committee – Today at 12:30 p.m.

House Status: House Passed.
Establishes the process for licensure of graduate physicians. Defines "graduate physician" and specifies that a graduate physician is considered a physician assistant for purposes of the regulations of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. Also specifies that graduate physicians are subject to the supervision requirements established in any controlling federal law and any supervision requirements established by the board of medical examiners.

In order to remain licensed as a graduate physician, requires the graduate physician to successfully complete Step 3 of the United States Medical Licensing Exam (USMLE) no later than one year from the date that the graduate obtained a graduate physician license.

Prohibits a graduate physician from practicing without a graduate physician collaborative practice arrangement. Defines "graduate physician collaborative practice arrangement" as an agreement between a licensed physician and a graduate physician that meets certain requirements. Establishes parameters for graduate physician collaborative arrangements.
Amendment Summary: House Facilities, Licensure, & Regulations Subcommittee amendment 1 (004588) redefines "graduate physician collaborative practice arrangement" establishing that this is a one-year agreement that can only be renewed for a one additional one-year period.

TNA Position: OPPOSE This bill is ill-defined, speaks to primary care needs, but amends parts of the code that do not apply to primary care. There is no need for this, if APRNs were allowed to practice to full scope of practice, they could address primary care shortages in the state.

Senate - Referred to Senate Health & Welfare Committee.
House – Referred to House Mental Health Subcommittee 4/2/19
Summary: Establishes procedure for an applicant to receive a Doctor of Medical Science license if the applicant meets the following criteria: (1) previously has been licensed and served in clinical practice for at least three years in one or more states as a physician assistant; (2) is a graduate of a minimum two-year doctor of medical science program accredited by a regional body under the United States department of education; (3) has successfully completed the examination on the certification of doctors of medical science, with the examination determined by the board; and (4) provides satisfactory evidence of an affiliation or association with a hospital, group practice, or a list of physicians with medical expertise outside the expertise of the person seeking licensure as a doctor of medical science. For renewal of license, requires in the year preceding the application for renewal successfully completed 100 hours of continuing medical education.

TNA Position: OPPOSE This practitioner is essentially a PA with a doctorate degree, there is no need to establish a new license for this education degree. Essentially codifying a new license for a degree at one university.

Senate: Referred to Senate Health and Welfare Committee.

House: Assigned to Facilities, Licensure, & Regulations Subcommittee.
TNA Position is to support APRNs being able to prescribe Buprenorphine in all settings without restrictions.

SB1060/HB656 has been amended multiple times and will likely not be moved out of committee.

If you receive questions while lobbying, you can state our position and then please refer them to Kathleen Murphy. We want to make sure we are addressing the current amendment or proposed amendment.
Legislative Advocacy
Your nursing practice, your ability to care for patients safely, your role in delegation and supervision of unlicensed care givers, your ability to practice in an Advanced Practice role, are all determined by state law, the Nurse Practice Act.
How to Be Effective at the Capital

- **DO YOUR HOMEWORK** Just as your time is very limited, so is a legislator’s. Know the bill number (SB for Senate, HB for House of Representatives) and the issues. Have your facts ready.

- **IDENTIFY YOURSELF** Introduce yourself as a registered nurse (nursing student) and a voter from a specific city or county. And remember, you are speaking on behalf of yourself as a nurse, not as a lobbyist for any organization.

- **KEEP IT SIMPLE AND CLEAR** Don’t use medical jargon. State your position clearly and then be available to either answer any questions the legislator might have or offer to find out the answer to any question you don’t know. It is alright to say “I don’t know the answer but I’ll try to get it for you”…never fake it! Offer to get the information to them as quickly as possible and always follow up with the legislator.

- **CONCENTRATE ON THE ISSUE, NOT THE PERSON** Doing your homework and preparing for your conversation with your legislator will allow you to concentrate on the issue. Remember, they are public servants trying to represent ALL of their constituents.
Tips for Communicating with Legislators

- Keep it clear and focused. A one-page letter should be enough to communicate your thoughts and express your stand on a particular issue.

- Write it yourself, make it personal, include bill numbers and don’t simply send on a mass-produced letter. Avoid medical jargon or abbreviations.

- In the salutation, use Dear Senator (last name) or Dear Representative (last name).

- Provide your contact information and if you are a constituent (address, phone number, E-mail).

- E-MAILS Put the Bill number and your request in the subject line and follow guidelines as for a letter.
A Few Things to Remember

- Take time to contact your legislator when you approve of their action, as well as when you wish to voice your opposition to a bill.

- Always thank your legislator for a positive action on a request; they get lots of requests, but not many thanks.

- Follow up your visit with a personal thank you note or email.

- Please complete the Legislative Appointment Feedback Sheet and return via email to Kathleen Murphy at kathleen.murphy@tnaononline.org
Preparations for Next Year: Full Practice Authority
Coalition for Access to Care for All Tennesseans

- Representatives from state and regional advanced practice registered nurse (APRN) groups working together to remove antiquated rules and regulations that limit access to care and choice of provider in Tennessee.

- Mission: To create a regulatory climate in which APRNs can practice to the full extent of their education and training to improve the health of well-being of all Tennesseans.

- Purpose of the group includes, but is not limited to: To provide a forum for communication and collaboration between official organizations of each of the four Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) categories recognized by the Tennessee Board of Nursing: Certified Nurse Practitioner (CNP), Clinical Nurse Specialist (CNS), Certified Nurse Midwife (CNM), and Certified Registered
Why is This Important?

- It is all about access to quality health care and choice for all Tennesseans:
  - Tennessee ranks 42nd for overall health in the 2018 America’s Health Rankings Report
  - Tennessee ranks low in the “Big Four” Health Indicators
    - Lack of Physical Activity – Tennessee ranks 40th
    - Excessive Caloric Intake – Tennessee ranks 35th for adult obesity
    - Substance Use Disorders – Tennessee ranks 38th for drug deaths and 6th for excessive drinking
    - Nicotine Dependence – Tennessee ranks 47th for percentage of adults who smoke

How Will Full Practice Authority Help?

- There is evidence that patients treated by Nurse Practitioners have higher satisfaction, fewer unnecessary emergency department visits, fewer hospital readmissions, and fewer preventable hospitalizations.
- Nurse Practitioners provide care that is safe, effective, high-quality, cost-effective, and patient-centered.
- Removing unnecessary and antiquated rules and regulations would allow all APRNs to function to the fullest extent of their education and training.
- APRNs will continue to work in teams, consult and collaborate with physician colleagues and make referrals as warranted.
- Removing unnecessary practice barriers will increase access to care and choice of providers.
Questions/Comments

ENJOY YOUR VISITS

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE IS AT 12:30 TODAY