

**Legislative Coalition of Virginia Nurses
2009 Policy Agenda
Priority Goals**

Ensure an adequate nursing workforce to meet the public's health care needs.

- *Support recommendations of the Governor's Health Reform Commission aimed at assuring an adequate supply of nurses and removing barriers to practice*
- *Increase funding of nursing education; remove barriers to recruitment and retention of nursing faculty; promote expansion of existing programs and support new nursing education programs as well as the successful completion of nursing programs by enrolled students.*
- *Advocate for safe and healthy work environments.*
- *Advocate for increased reimbursement to facilities and providers.*
- *Advocate for health care that is timely, effective, safe, patient-centered, efficient, and equitable.*

Quality and Safety of Health Care

- *Support health legislation and policies that facilitate the implementation of best practices and/or evidence-based practice.*
- *Oppose legislation designed to restrict the scope of practice of registered nurses and advanced practice nurses.*
- *Monitor the use of unlicensed assistive personnel.*
- *Monitor legislation that promotes public safety in the licensure and regulatory processes for all health professions.*

Access to Care

- *Oppose decreases in Medicaid funding across the lifespan.*
- *Oppose efforts to increase medical liability caps beyond inflationary increases*
- *Support initiatives that would increase K-12 students' access to Registered Nurses.*
- *Support statutory amendments to make the laws governing the practice of nurse practitioners consistent with current practice and need.*
- *Support timely access to and adequate reimbursement for mental health services.*

Promotion of the public's health and safety

- *Support disaster preparation and mitigation programs and activities.*
- *Support funding for preventive programs and immunizations*
- *Support child safety issues, including those related to consumer products and vehicle safety.*
- *Support highway safety including opposition of the repeal of motorcycle helmet laws and support for primary seat belt and open-container legislation.*
- *Oppose the use of necessary health and education general funds for transportation projects.*
- *Support the work of coalitions for smoking cessation and clean air.*
- *Oppose additional budget cuts to the Trauma Fund.*