

# Legislative Report

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March 7, 2019

## SESSION BEGAN MARCH 5, 2019 - THESE URGENT ISSUES NEED YOUR SUPPORT NOW!

### 1. ASSAULTING A NURSE IN A CLINICAL SETTING

ASNA has drafted a Joint Resolution for the Alabama House and Senate stating that providers should display a poster in clinical waiting areas with a warning that it is a FELONY to attack a nurse. Representative April Weaver is sponsoring the resolution. PLEASE EMAIL HER NOW!

### 2. MAKE ALABAMA A COMPACT STATE - HB44

ASNA is promoting this bill to make Alabama an ENHANCED LICENSURE COMPACT STATE. This means there will be a CHOICE to pay the same fee for Ala-only license and a larger fee for an ELC license. Alabama is the only state in the southeast currently NOT in the compact. NOW is the time to contact your legislators and fight for this right!

### 3. FULL PRACTICE AUTHORITY FOR APRNs

ASNA has taken the lead in establishing an APRN Steering Committee to develop a strategy to ultimately promote a bill that will grant full practice authority to APRNs. The process may take a year or more. The Steering Committee will establish a Working Group inclusive of many stakeholders such as; The Alabama Hospital Association, The Alabama Department of Public Health, Blue Cross-Blue Shield, Alabama Rural Health initiative and of course, APRN organizations.

### 4. SUPPORTING MEDICAL VOLUNTEER TRANSPORTATION LIMITED LIABILITY PROTECTION LEGISLATION

### 5. HOSPICE AND HOME HEALTH NURSES

Set up a joint meeting of representatives from the Pharmacy Board and the ABN to clarify/interpret the exemption for public health nurses to be extended to hospice and home health nurses regarding the medication re-packing law. Ala Code 34-23-1(24) is now interpreted to mean that nurses cannot remove medication from prescription bottles and place them in other distribution (M,T,W,TH,F,S,SU) containers.

### 6. RURAL HEALTH

Some estimate that 12 to 16 Alabama rural hospitals will have to close in 2019. ASNA has worked with the Alabama Hospital Association and other stakeholders to promote FUNDING and access to care for Alabama's rural areas.

### 7. SUPPORTING ALABAMA BOARD OF NURSING BILLS:

- APRN loan repayment scholarships HB45, to practice in underserved areas - adding that grads with 5 yrs. can qualify for assistance. (Existing bill is only for people in school who will pre-commit to rural areas)
- ABN immunity language strengthened
- Investigators given law enforcement authority

### 8. EDUCATING NEW LEGISLATORS ABOUT NURSE ISSUES AND NURSE POWER

Alabama has the following NEW LEGISLATORS. Introduce yourself (at a minimum through email) particularly to legislators from your district. They will WELCOME YOUR INPUT! Really...They can't be experts about everything and they highly value your professional opinion.

## HOW TO CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR:

1. Visit <http://capwiz.com/state-al/home>
2. Enter your street address and select the "Go" button.
3. On the right side of the screen, the names of your State Senator and State Representative will appear below the name of Governor Ivey. Choose either the Senator or Representative.
4. On the legislator's page, there is a tab labeled "Contact." Select this tab and click the link to contact the legislator by email.
5. Fill out the form, including your message, and select "Send Message."
6. Repeat the process for your other state legislator.

## **New House Members:**

### **Wes Allen**

Troy

### **Chip Brown**

Mobile

### **Will Dismukes**

Prattville

### **Brett Easterbrook**

Choctaw, Clarke and Washington counties

### **Tracy Estes**

Lamar, Marion, and Winston counties

### **Jeremy Gray**

Lee and Russell counties

### **Kirk Hatcher**

Montgomery

### **Rolanda Hollis**

Jefferson

### **Gil Isbell**

Gadsden

### **Sam Jones**

Mobile

### **Jamie Kiel**

Colbert, Franklin, Lauderdale counties

### **Wes Kitchens**

Blount, DeKalb, Marshall counties

### **Craig Lipscomb**

Etowah county

### **Rhett Marques**

Coffee county

### **Parker Moore**

Limestone, Morgan counties

### **Tashina Morris**

Montgomery

### **Ed Oliver**

Dadeville

### **Neil Rafferty**

Jefferson

### **Rex Reynolds**

Madison

### **Proncey Robertson**

Winston, Franklin, Lawrence, Morgan counties

### **Ginny Shavers**

Calhoun, Cherokee, Cleburne, DeKalb counties

### **Matt Simpson**

Baldwin, Mobile counties

### **Andrew Sorrells**

Colbert, Lauderdale, Lawrence counties

### **Jeff Sorrells**

Geneva, Houston counties

### **Scott Stadthagen**

Cullman, Marshall, Morgan counties

### **Shane Stringer**

Mobile

### **Rodney Sullivan**

Pickens, Tuscaloosa counties

### **David Wheeler**

Jefferson

### **Andy Whitt**

Limestone, Madison counties

### **Debbie Wood**

Chambers, Lee counties

## **New Senate Members:**

### **Will Barfoot**

Montgomery

### **David Burkette**

Montgomery

### **Tom Butler**

Huntsville

### **Donnie Chesteen**

Dothan

### **Chris Elliott**

Baldwin

### **Sam Givhan**

Madison county

### **Garlan Gudger**

Cullman, Lawrence, Marion, Winston counties

### **Andrew Jones**

Cherokee, DeKalb, Etowah counties

### **Randy Price**

Chambers, Clay, Cleburne, Lee, Randolph counties

### **Dan Roberts**

Jefferson, Shelby, Talladega counties

### **Malik's Sanders-Fortier**

Selma

### **David Sessions**

Mobile

### **Jack Williams**

Mobile

## **OTHER ALABAMA ADVOCACY AND PRACTICE ISSUES:**

1. Improving physical and mental health needs in prisons and detention centers
2. Healthy nurse healthy nation - awareness initiative
3. Supporting nursing student resilience by promoting civility, ethics and the importance of participating in one's professional association throughout their career



**THE VOICE  
FOR ALABAMA  
NURSES**