

Official Publication of the

Nevada State Board of **NURSING**



Nevada Nursing News

Spring 2025

WORDS

From the Executive Director

**Cathy Dinauer,
MSN, RN, FRE**



The 83rd Legislative session will soon be coming to an end and I thought I would provide you with a brief update of legislative changes that impact nursing and healthcare in general.

AB 34 was a bill submitted to the Senate Commerce and Labor Committee that would have enacted the Nure Licensure Compact. The bill incorporated the enactment of five compacts, Nursing being one of them. The bill was put forward by the Patient Protection Committee and while many of us worked hard to get the bill heard by the committee, that did not happen. The bill died because it was never given a chance to be heard. Despite a Nevada Nursing Survey that indicated that 92% of Nevada nurses were in favor of the compact, it was still not heard. The nursing unions are strongly opposed to the compact and have no interest in seeing it passed in our state.

SB 78 is a bill introduced by the Department of Business and Industry that would combine all the occupational boards under this department. Currently, the Board of Nursing is an independent board and relies on licensure fees for operations. SB 78 in its various versions would have eliminated the independent nature of the board and consolidate us with all other occupational boards in the state. To date, the bill has been amended, and it appears the board of nursing will retain that independence.

AB 319 is a bill that was introduced by the Board of Medical Examiners (BME). The bill addresses several changes in the BME's statutes but of particular importance to nursing is a change in language that would allow nurses to delegate to medical assistants. Medical Assistants are under the direction of physicians so adding nurses to the list of individuals who can delegate to medical assistants would be very helpful to our profession. The BME has been a great partner in this process and hopefully this bill will get passed before the Governor for passage.

SB 249 is a bill that would put CRNAs under the APRN umbrella. In many states, CRNAs are APRNs so this would be advantageous for CRNAs in our state as it would allow for autonomous practice for CRNAs. The bill was modified to state that CRNAs could order, possess, prescribe dangerous drugs outside of a critical access hospital in certain circumstances. The bill did not pass.

AB 182 is a staffing ratio bill. The Board of Nursing has not been asked to take a stand on this bill so I cannot comment. However, should the bill pass, there will be changes to nurse staffing in our state.

SB 176 is a bill that would provide funding for CNA students in certain high schools in our state. A pilot program would be initiated to cover the costs for testing of certain CNA students who take a course in high school.

This is our democratic process at work so if you are inclined to be involved, do so. I will report out when the session is over.



**Cheryl A. Maes,
Ph.D., APRN, FNP-BC,
Board President**

Message From the President

Message from the President

Honoring the Heart of Healthcare

As we celebrate National Nurses Week, from May 6 to May 12, we take this opportunity to recognize and honor the individuals who are truly the backbone of our healthcare system — our nurses. But for those who wear the badge of nursing each day, pride in the profession extends far beyond a single week or even a single day. Nursing is a daily commitment to care, comfort, and healing.

Nurses are present during life's most critical moments either to welcome new life, easing pain, providing comfort through uncertainty, and offering strength in times of loss. They are not only skilled clinicians, but also educators, advocates, and trusted lifelines for patients and their families. Through long hours and intense demands, nurses remain a steady, compassionate, and unwavering presence.

To be a nurse is to possess the courage and resilience to face the unknown, the strength to carry on when times are difficult, and the deep compassion to treat every patient with dignity. It is a role grounded in profound trust and responsibility that is carried out in hospitals, community clinics, nursing homes, schools, and countless other settings. Wherever care is needed, nurses stand ready.

The pride nurses take in their work is not just professional, but it is also deeply personal. It is seen in the quiet gratitude of a patient, the steady progress of healing, the reassurance offered with a gentle touch. It is rooted in the knowledge that what they do truly matters.

During National Nurses Week, we thank nurses not just for what they do, but for who they are. Their strength, grace under pressure, relentless pursuit of better care, and unwavering dedication to humanity continue to inspire us all.

To every nurse: your work changes lives. Your dedication strengthens communities. And your pride in being a nurse is something the world sees and deeply values. We are proud of you and continue to be proud of what you do.

GUESS WHAT?

Did you know that you are required to notify the Board of any updates to your residential address within 30 days after the change?

KEEPING YOUR INFORMATION UP TO DATE IS THE BEST WAY TO BE NOTIFIED OF ANY NEW/UPDATED CE REQUIREMENTS OR UPDATES TO YOUR LICENSE/CERTIFICATE.

IF YOU HAVE AN ADDRESS CHANGE, PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO LOG INTO YOUR NURSING PORTAL AND UPDATE IT.
-THANK YOU-

Change your address here:

<https://nvbn.boardsofnursing.org/nvbn/>

Hot Topics for Nurse Practitioners to Watch in 2025

By Susan S. VanBeuge, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC, FAANP, FAAN



The role of the nurse practitioner in the United States is young! In 1965, Dr. Loretta “Lee” Ford and Dr. Henry Silver developed the first nurse practitioner (NP) at the University of Colorado. Together, they conceptualized this role to help fill the gap for pediatric care. The new role of nurse practitioner was a project conducted in two phases: intensive theory and practice under the guidance of senior faculty members in the schools of nursing and medicine. The role was within the scope of the Professional Nurse Practice on the State of Colorado. The role was clearly defined, with activities reviewed by the Colorado State Board of Medical Examiners, medical societies, and insurance carriers. The first nurses selected for this novel program were required to have a master’s degree in public health nursing. In time, the program expanded to accept nurses with a baccalaureate degree. Nurses with public health experience were valuable in the nurse practitioner role, but it was not mandatory (Hoekelman, 1998). Dr. Ford was a pioneer in the field and continued

her work to advocate for the NP role until her death at age 102 in 2025. When I first had the chance to have a one-on-one conversation with Dr. Ford in 2015, I asked her if she ever imagined back in 1965 that the NP role would be where it was today. She stated she was proud of the work done, but there is no time to rest but to continue to work and champion the role of nurse practitioner. In addition, Dr. Ford wanted us to remember that the most important word in NP is “nurse” (Berg, 2020).

From the beginnings of the NP role in Colorado in 1965, in 1973 Nevada established Advanced Practice Nursing (APN) as a role. Nevada saw the first Advanced Practice Nurse (APN) certificate of recognition issued on September 28, 1979. These first pioneer APNs cleared the path for the over 6,000 licensed NPs in Nevada today. In 1981, the first APN focused group formed as subgroup of the Nevada Nurses Association (NNA) and was known as the “Special Interest Group”. During the 1991 legislative session, APNs gained prescription privileges in Nevada. Ten years later in 2001 APNs were successful in gaining DEA prescriptive privileges.

Each legislative session in Nevada called for changes to the nurse practice act, enabling nurse practitioners to fully utilize their education and training. During this time, NP leader organizations worked together to write the APRN Consensus Model. Published in 2008, it was a roadmap for NP licensure, accreditation, certification, and education. Shortly after the model's publication, Nevada APNs met to align their practice. One of the first items was to look at national certification. Nevada did not require national certification as a requirement to practice. At the time, Nevada was one of four states who did not require national certification to practice. NP leaders proposed the idea, and the legislature made it a practice requirement in 2011.

In late 2011, a small group of Nevada NPs had an idea to form their own organization. This organization quickly became the voice of the Nevada nurse practitioner throughout the state. This same group of pioneer leaders created a plan to seek full practice authority for APNs in Nevada. During the 2013 session, NPs made three major changes in statute: full practice authority, name changed from *advanced practice nurse* (APN) to *advanced practice registered nurse* (APRN) and change from “certificate of recognition” to license.

In the history of NP practice in Nevada, the 2013 legislative session changes were game changes for practice. Gaining full practice authority gave more opportunity to NPs and brought more providers to our state. The number of nurse practitioners in Nevada has risen significantly, from 924 at the time full practice authority was enacted, to 6,915 as of January 2025 (NSBN News, Winter 2025). This means more licensed providers, greater access to care, and improved health of the citizens of our state.

NP practice in Nevada has seen noteworthy progress over time. In the 2017 legislative session, the Nevada Advanced Practice Nurses Association (NAPNA) championed a major gain. The enactment of global signature authority has facilitated the advancement of NP practice. The 2019 legislative session clarified language from the 2017 session. This is a demonstration of NP work and the legislative process.

In the 2021 legislative session Assembly Bill 91 mandated that an APRN be a permanent member of the Nevada State Board of Nursing. Prior to this legislation, registered nurse (RN) members have also been APRNs, but this was not a mandatory requirement. With the passage of AB 91, the mandate to have an APRN on the Board of Nursing assures direct representation of the APRN community of almost 7,000 licensed NPs in Nevada (NSBN Annual Report, 2020/2021).

History is rich in the APRN community. Since its inception at the University of Colorado in 1965,

the NP role has grown to over 385,000 licensed NPs today. Nevada's history is not unlike its western roots of industrious, resolute nurses who have championed the role of the NP to serve the citizens, provide access to care, and improve the health of all who live in Nevada.

References

Berg, J. A. (2020). The perils of not knowing the history of the nurse practitioner role. *Journal of the American Association of Nurse Practitioners*, 32(9), 602–609.

<https://doi.org/10.1097/JXX.0000000000000441>

Hoekelman C. R. (1998). A program to increase health care for children: the pediatric nurse practitioner program, by Henry K. Silver, MD, Loretta C. Ford, EdD, and Susan G. Stearly, MS, Pediatrics, 1967;39:756-760. *Pediatrics*, 102(1 Pt 2), 245–247.

Nevada State Board of Nursing News, 2025. You are in Good Company – Active Nevada Licenses/Certificates as of January 22, 2025. Winter 2025. Downloaded from

<https://nevadanursingboard.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Winter-2025-Newsletter-Final.pdf>

Nevada State Board of Nursing Annual Report, 2020/2021. Annual Report Fiscal Year 2020/2021.

Downloaded from <https://nevadanursingboard.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Annual-Report-FY-2020-2021-Final.pdf>



A DREAM UNFULFILLED

By Arizona College, Las Vegas Administration

It is with profound sadness that we mourn the unexpected passing of Grat “Dalton” Walker, a bright and promising nursing student whose loss has deeply affected the entire Arizona College of Nursing community. Grat was a cherished member of our nursing program, known for his insightful mind, compassionate spirit, and unwavering dedication to the field of nursing.

His aspiration to become a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) nurse spoke volumes about his caring nature and desire to nurture the most vulnerable. The anticipation of his upcoming pediatric and obstetrics rotations this summer was met with great excitement by both Grat and his instructors, who recognized his immense potential to make a meaningful impact on the lives of children and families.

Grat's passion for nursing was beautifully articulated in his personal statement. His desire to "help people feel comfortable in a medical setting" resonated deeply with the core values of our profession. He understood that healthcare can be intimidating, and he envisioned himself as a source of comfort and reassurance for patients during their most vulnerable times. His unique ambition to combine hospital work with aesthetic treatments at a medical spa showcased his desire to empower individuals and enhance their well-being in multiple dimensions, recognizing the powerful connection between physical health and self-confidence.

The faculty, staff, and his fellow students remember Grat for his enthusiasm, his thoughtful contributions in class, and his genuine kindness towards everyone he encountered. He was a true team player, always ready to support his peers and approach challenges with a positive attitude. The nursing community has undoubtedly lost a bright star, a future caregiver whose potential was immense and whose passion was infectious.

Though Grat's time with us was far too short, the impact he made on our community will be everlasting. We will always cherish his memory, his bright smile, and the passion he held for nursing. His dream of making a difference in the lives of others will continue to inspire us all. We extend our deepest condolences to Grats' family and friends during this incredibly difficult time. May his memory be a source of comfort and strength, and may his spirit forever shine brightly within the hearts of those who knew and loved him.





Giving Nurses Their Flowers

By Michelle Johnson, EdD, MS, APRN, CPNP-PC

May signals the annual recognition of nurses. Whether you are recognized during “Nurses’ Week” (May 6-12) or “Nurses’ Day” (May 12) or for some Nurses’ Month (the month of May), it is that magical time of year when nurses get some form of recognition. Every year, the Nevada Nursing News expresses the Nevada State Board of Nursing’s gratitude and appreciation for nurses and all that we do. 2025 is no different. THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU! Your hard work is greatly appreciated. This year I wanted to personally thank a nurse that had an enormous influence on my life and my career.

“Dr. Stella P. Robinson (Miss Stella Pecot then) was the first African American to teach in the LA County General Hospital School of Nursing, RN program. She taught from the fall of 1952 until January 1954. In fact, she was the first African American to teach in an RN program in the whole state of California when she was hired in 1952” (Dr. Deborah Robinson, 2022). Dr. Robinson’s long and illustrious career spanned from New York to Hawaii. I had the incredible pleasure of being mentored by her when I was an undergraduate nursing student at the University of Michigan (1988-1992). Dr. Robinson was the Dean of Minority Affairs at the School of Nursing at the time. She saw something in me that I did not see in myself, and she took me under her wing. She opened my eyes to so many possibilities and this had a direct impact on shaping my career. I am sure every nurse can look back and single out that one or two instructors or nurses who helped mode and shape them and for me, she is one of mine. Her presence was quiet, but her impact was mighty.

When I decided to write something about Dr. Robinson, I came across a few articles ([Influential Nurse and Community Activist Celebrates 100th Birthday – Los Angeles Sentinel](#)). I was so pleased to learn that Dr. Robinson celebrated her 100th birthday in 2022. Dr. Robinson not only has been a pioneer but also a social and community activist ([Stella Pecot Robinson - LA South Connections](#)). In 2013, she was inducted into the Nursing Hall of Fame for Nursing Education.

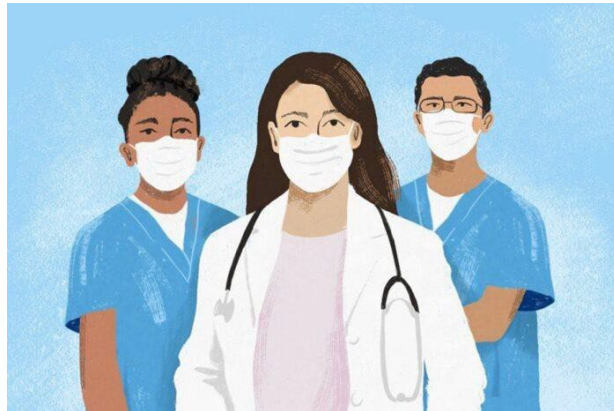
I encourage you to celebrate the Dr. Robinson(s) in your life. Give them their “flowers” now. Not just because it is Nurses’ Day or Week or Month, but because you appreciate them all year round. Let them know that they made a positive impact on your life, helped shape your career, or just made a difference. I know I just did, THANK YOU DR. ROBINSON!



You Are in Good Company

Active Nevada licenses/certificates as of January 22, 2025

APRN - 7,188 RN – 59,678 LPN - 4,623 CNA - 10,340 CRNA – 335



2024 Board Members



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Elizabeth Trilops, RN, MBA/HCM,
Vice President



Elizabeth de Leon-Gamboa, MSN Ed., RN,
CPHQ, CCM, CMCN,
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Ovidia McGuinness, LPN



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Richelle O'Driscoll, MA, Consumer Member



Tyler Johnson, BS, CNA

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Cathy Dinauer, MSN, RN, FRE

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Anyssa Vasquez

Management Assistant

IT & ACCOUNTING

Rhoda Hernandez

Technology & Computer Systems Specialist

Kristie Neuhauser, MBA

Accountant

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Board Meeting Dates

All dates and locations are subject to change

*Virtual/teleconference options available

*** January 15-16, 2025**

NSBN Conference Room
6005 Plumas Street Ste. 101
Reno, NV 89519

*** March 19-20, 2025**

Hilton Garden Inn Las Vegas Strip South
7830 S. Las Vegas Blvd
Las Vegas, NV 89123

*** May 14-15, 2025**

NSBN Conference Room
6005 Plumas Street Ste. 101
Reno, NV 89519

July 16-18, 2025

Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Center
660 Hwy 50
Zephyr Cove, Nevada 89448

***September 17-18, 2025**

NSBN Conference Room
6005 Plumas Street Ste. 101
Reno, NV 89519

***November 19-20, 2025**

Hilton Garden Inn Las Vegas Strip South
7830 S. Las Vegas Blvd
Las Vegas, NV 89123

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Committee Meetings and Openings

Advanced Practice Advisory Committee:

February 11, 2025
May 13, 2025
August 12, 2025
November 18, 2025

Education Advisory Committee:

January 10, 2025
April 11, 2025
August 8, 2025
October 10, 2025

CNA & Medication Aide – Certified Committee:

April 3, 2025
August 7, 2025
October 2, 2025

LPN Advisory Committee:

February 27, 2025
May 8, 2025
August 21, 2025
November TBD

Disability Advisory Committee:

January 9, 2025
April 10, 2025
July 10, 2025
October 9, 2025

Nurse Practice Advisory Committee:

February 4, 2025
May 6, 2025
August 5, 2025
November 4, 2025

CNA Advisory Committee: 1 medication aides-certified
Disability Advisory Committee: 1 opening January 2025
Education Advisory Committee: 3 openings May 2025