

It is both an honor and a privilege to serve as the Chair of the Legislation and Rules Committee of the Wisconsin State Board of Nursing. I was appointed to the Wisconsin State Board of Nursing over one year ago and have found this to be a growth experience both personally and professionally. I am currently an APNP in the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Medicine at the Medical College of Wisconsin and I am ANCC certified in mental health and HIV. I also have had extensive administrative experience, teach part time at Marquette University and have numerous publications in the areas of HIV and nursing.

One of the roles of the Legislation and Rules Committee is to review proposed legislation coming before the Legislature which may impact the nursing profession. It is our responsibility to review the proposed legislation, update the full Board of Nursing and, if needed, provide a response to the legislature.

Another role of the Committee is to review the current nursing statutes and rules which consumes most of our time. This has been the primary focus of the committee's work over the past few months and has resulted in many proposed revisions. Specifically, we have been working on the State of Wisconsin Statute Chapter 441, which is the Nurse Practice Act. In addition, the committee has been working on N1 (Program Approval for Schools of Nursing), N2 (Licensure by Examination), N3 (Licensure by Endorsement), N7 (Rules of Conduct), and N9 (Nurse Licensure Compact). The revisions are based on the need to ensure that the statutes and rules reflect modern practice and technology; continue to protect the public; and serve as a guideline for nurses. Multiple resources are taken into consideration as changes are suggested including recommendations from the National Council of State Boards of Nursing (NCSBN), the Consensus Model for APRN Regulation, comparisons with other States, and public comment.

As constituents, you all have the ability to provide input and feedback into the process. When the changes are drafted, there will be public hearings to obtain feedback on the revisions. The public hearings will be noticed on the Department's website.

I look forward to moving the revisions into the approval process and continuing to work on the legislative process for the Board of Nursing.