



Coalition of Advanced Practice Registered Nurses

Working to advance the health of all Georgians.

www.CAPRN.org

2014-2015 Legislative Agenda

Georgia confronts a critical shortage of health care professionals. Georgia also has one of the highest populations of uninsured individuals in the nation along with unacceptably high rates of preventable acute and chronic illness, disabilities, and premature death. Yet, there continues to be a disconnect between the high level of care Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) are qualified to provide and the limited care that APRNs are able to provide under Georgia's restrictive laws and regulations. Modernizing Georgia's outdated laws and regulations will increase our citizen's access to high quality care while decreasing costs associated with dated bureaucratic requirements that do nothing to enhance quality and safety.

CAPRN's health policy and legislative priorities for 2014-2015 includes:

Health Advocacy

- Support accessible, affordable, community-based primary care, prevention, acute and chronic disease management services.
- Support public health and prevention strategies to reduce harm and improve health that are evidenced based and proven effective.
- Encourage interdisciplinary collaboration to fully engage/leverage the skills/ capacities of all healthcare professions to improve Georgia's health outcomes and contain health costs.
- Develop collaborative participation in coalitions consistent with the vision and mission of CAPRN.

Professional Advocacy

- Support the implementation of innovative, collaborative, team based models of care that fully utilize the knowledge and skills of all members of the health care team.
- Address statutory, regulatory, and institutional barriers to patient access to care by authorizing APRN's to provide services to the full extent of their knowledge training, experience and skills under the authority of the state board of nursing. This includes the authority to evaluate patients, diagnose, order and interpret diagnostic tests, initiate and manage treatments and prescribe medications.
- Support the use of provider inclusive language in all laws and regulations.
- Support recognition and reimbursement of APRN's as providers by all entities.
- Support increased transparency of APRN practice through the development of APRN quality and safety measures.