



**ANA-VT has its finger on the pulse of
Vermont's legislative happenings because nurses have power!**

Week 7 (Feb 15, 2022 - Feb 18, 2022)

Highlights of Interest to Nurses

House Committee on Commerce and Economic Development: Room 35 & Zoom

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/house-commerce-and-economic-development>

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

9:00 AM Rights and Democracy Vermont

- Kiah Morris, Movement Politics & Policy Director, Rights and Democracy Vermont

9:30 AM H. 406 - An act relating to promoting racial and social equity in economic opportunity and cultural empowerment

- Joan Goldstein, Commissioner, Department of Economic Development
- Xusana Davis, Executive Director of Racial Equity and Chair of the Governor's Task Force on Racial Equality, Agency of Administration

1:00 PM H. 703 An act relating to promoting workforce development

- David Hall, Legislative Counsel, Office of Legislative Counsel
- Ellen Kahler, Executive Director, Vermont Sustainable Jobs Fund
- Sarah Buxton, State Director of Workforce Development, Department of Labor

House Committee on Human Services: Room 46 and Zoom

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/house-human-services>.

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

1:15 PM Developmental Disabilities Services System

- Jim Caffry, Esq., Parent
- Betty Milizia, Parent
- Susan Yuan, Parent, Vermont Coalition for Disability Rights

3:30 PM Workforce Development *Committee Discussion*

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

10:45 AM 22-0558 - An act relating to the creation of the Opioid Settlement Advisory Committee and the Opioid Abatement Special Fund

- Vermont League of Cities and Towns-*invited*
- Vermont Department of Health-*invited*

1:45 PM COVID-19 Updates

Contact tracing

- Patsy Kelso, Ph.D., State Epidemiologist, Department of Health Contact Tracing Contractor-*invited*

Senate Committee on Health and Welfare

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/senate-health-and-welfare>.

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

S. 244 - An act relating to strengthening primary care and primary care providers

- Sara Teachout, Director, Government, Public & Media Relations, Blue Cross/Blue Shield VT

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

9:00 AM H. 654 - An act relating to extending COVID-19 health care regulatory flexibility

Testimony and mark-up

- Mike Fisher, Vermont Health Care Advocate
- Jeff Hochberg, President, Vermont Retail Druggists
- Jennifer Carbee, Director and Chief Counsel, Office of Legislative Counsel

10:30 AM S. 90 - An act relating to establishing an amyotrophic lateral sclerosis registry

- Anne O'Brien, Wellness Nurse, Cathedral Square
- Elijah Stommel, MD, Neurologist, Dartmouth Hitchcock Medical Center
- Rup Tandan, MD, Neurologist, UVMHC
- Paul Mehta, MD, CDC
- Sarah Vose, State Toxicologist, Department of Health - Invited

Thursday, February 17, 2022

9:00 AM Health Equity Report

Joint meeting with the House Committee on Health Care

- Xusana Davis, Executive Director of Racial Equity and Chair of the Governor's Task Force on Racial Equality, Agency of Administration
- Andrea Brett, Chair, Racial Equity Advisory Panel
- Mark Hughes, Member, Health Equity Advisory Commission
- Andrea Brett, Chair, Racial Equity Advisory Panel
- Mark Hughes, Member, Health Equity Advisory Commission

10:00 AM S. 195 - An act relating to the certification of mental health peer support specialists

- Lauren Hibbert, Director, Office of Professional Regulation, Secretary of State's Office

10:30 AM Election of Legislative Trustees of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation

Joint Assembly

Friday, February 18, 2022

9:00 AM S. 206 - An act relating to planning for the care and treatment of patients with cognitive impairments

Mark-up

- Katie McLinn, Legislative Counsel, Office of Legislative Counsel

S. 194 - An act relating to peer-operated respite centers

S. 195 - An act relating to the certification of mental health peer support specialists

S. 197 - An act relating to the Coordinated Mental Health Crisis Response Working Group

Mark-up of mental health bills

- Katie McLinn, Legislative Counsel, Office of Legislative Counsel

House Committee on Health Care: Room 45 and Zoom

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/house-health-care>.

Tuesday, February 15, 2022

10:00 AM House Floor: After the Floor - Caucuses

3:00 PM Governor's Health Care Workforce Proposals

- Ena Backus, Director of Health Care Reform, Agency of Human Services

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

9:00 AM Health Care Workforce

Committee discussion

1:00 PM Suicide Prevention

Testimony and committee discussion

Thursday, February 17, 2022

9:00 AM Health Equity Report

Joint meeting with the Senate Committee on Health and Welfare. Meeting will be live streamed here: <https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/senate-health-and-welfare>

- Xusana Davis, Executive Director of Racial Equity and Chair of the Governor's Task Force on Racial Equality, Agency of Administration
- Andrea Brett, Chair, Racial Equity Advisory Panel
- Mark Hughes, Executive Director, Health Equity Advisory Commission

10:30 AM Election of Legislative Trustees of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation

Joint Assembly

11:00 AM Health Equity Grant

- Heidi Klein, Health Equity & Refugee Health Coordinator, Department of Health - Invited

1:00 PM Hospital Sustainability

- *Testimony from the Green Mountain Care Board and the Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Systems*
- Devon Green, Vice President of Government Relations, Vermont Association of Hospitals and Health Systems

Friday, February 18, 2022

1:00 PM Essential Health Benefits

Testimony and committee discussion

- Theo Kennedy, J.D., M.P.H., Chair, Statewide Independent Living Council

House Committee on General, Housing, and Military Affairs: Room 42 and Zoom

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/house-general-housing-and-military-affairs>

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

9:15 AM H. 96 - An act relating to creating the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Development Task Force

- Damien Leonard, Legislative Counsel, Office of Legislative Counsel

11:00 AM RADVT Lobby Day

- Kiah Morris, Movement Politics Director, Rights and Democracy Vermont

Thursday, February 17, 2022

9:15 AM H. 96 - An act relating to creating the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Development Task Force (*Discussion and mark-up*)

10:30 AM Election of Legislative Trustees of the Vermont State Colleges Corporation

- *Joint Assembly*

2:00 PM H. 329 - An act relating to amending the prohibitions against discrimination

Discussion and possible mark-up

House Committee on Ways and Means: Room 34 and Zoom

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1akzzVH35AlFalPl5LmYfQ/featured>

Wednesday February 16th

11:05 AM H. 655 An act relating to establishing a telehealth licensure & registration system

- Jennifer Carbee, Director and Chief Counsel, Office of Legislative Counsel
- Nolan Langweil, Senior Fiscal Analyst, Joint Fiscal Office

Senate Committee on Economic Development, Housing and General Affairs

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/senate-economic-development-housing-and-general-affairs>

10:20 AM S. 65 - An act relating to paid family leave

- Damien Leonard, Legislative Counsel, Office of Legislative Counsel
- Joyce Manchester, Senior Economist, Joint Fiscal Office
- Michael Pieciak, Commissioner, Department of Financial Regulation - Invited

Senate Committee on Education

<https://legislature.vermont.gov/committee/streaming/senate-education>

Wednesday Feb 16 3:00 PM

Mandatory Vaccinations for Schools

Mark Levine, MD, Commissioner, Vermont Department of Health

Daniel French, Ed.D., Secretary, Agency of Education