HB 1703: AN ACT that provides that the rules of the board of nursing shall not require that a director of an LPN education program possess a master’s degree in nursing.

History/Context:
New Hampshire has experienced the closure of several LPN programs over the last 10 years which is impacting the number of graduates from LPN programs who frequently work in long term care facilities and community settings. The nursing shortage of LPNs is more critical in rural areas of New Hampshire and LPN programs are needed to meet the needs of an aging population in these care settings. Due to an aging nursing workforce there is a faculty shortage for nursing education programs. Decreasing the educational requirements for directors for LPN programs may help address this faculty shortage. (Prepared by Sherrie Palmieri, DNP, MBA, RN, CPHQ)

NHNA’s Commission on Government Affairs does not support the passage of HB 1703.

A public hearing on this bill is scheduled for February 1, 2018 at 11:30 am in LOB 306.

Joan Widmer testified in opposition to HB 1703 at the hearing on February 1, 2018.

On February 23, 2018 the House Executive Departments & Administration Committee voted this bill inexpedient to legislate (12:0).

On March 6, 2018 this bill failed to pass in the House.