**HB 1822-FN: AN ACT making hormonal contraceptives available directly from pharmacists by means of a standing order**

**History/Context:**
Historically oral and other hormonal contraceptives required a visit to a primary care or women’s health care provider, during which time a prescription is written for hormonal contraceptives. In the last five years ACOG, the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, has had a position statement affirming that over-the-counter contraceptives should be available for women. The Food and Drug Administration has not approved over-the-counter access. House Bill 1822-FN bill was developed within the context of an interdisciplinary Commission to study pharmacist-accessed hormonal contraceptives as a means to improve access. The Commission reviewed other states experiences with this practice and reviewed NH experiences with standing orders and protocols for other clinical circumstances. House Bill 1822-FN represents the product of the Commission’s work and unanimous agreement by the Commission.

Participants in the Commission included representation from NH Boards of Nursing, Medicine, and Pharmacy, American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, New Hampshire Nurses Association, NH Medical Society, NH Pharmacists Association, NH Independent Pharmacy Association, Coalition of NH Chain Drug Stores, NH Society of Health-System Pharmacists, NH Nurse Practitioner Association, NH Hospital Association, Planned Parenthood of Northern New England, Bi-State Primary Care and NH Department of Health and Human Services.

House Bill 1822-FN allows pharmacists to dispense hormonal contraceptives pursuant to a standing order entered into with the health care provider. As outlined in the Bill, rules shall be adopted to include:
- Education and training of pharmacists
- Content and format of a patient information sheet, with consultation with the Commissioner of the Department of Health and Human Services
- Development of a model statewide protocol for provider and pharmacy use, with consent of the boards of nursing, pharmacy and medicine and in concert with the Department of Health and Human Services

(Prepared by Sara Kellogg-Meade, MS, RN)

**NHNA’s Commission on Government Affairs is in favor of the passage of HB 1822-FN.**

A public hearing on this bill was held on January 11, 2018, attended by Joan Widmer, Nurse Executive Director NHNA and Pam Doubleday, representing NHNA and AWHONN.

The House Committee on Health, Human Services and Elderly Affairs voted this bill inexpedient to legislate (ITL).
On February 8, 2018 the House voted to overturn the ITL (76/265) and passed it OTP in a loud voice vote! Thanks to Rep. Polly Campion for her behind the scenes work on this bill. The bill was transferred to the House Committee on Commerce and Consumer Affairs.

On February 14, 2018 this bill moved to subcommittee for further consideration, it is not due out until March 6, 2018.

A public hearing for the House Committee on Commerce & Consumer Affairs is scheduled on March 14, 2018 at 11:00 am.

Sara Kellogg Meade testified in support of this bill at a public hearing for the House Committee on Commerce & Consumer Affairs is scheduled on March 14, 2018. On March 15, the Committee voted this bill ought to pass with amendment (10:6). Here is a link to the amendment: [#2018-1118h](#).

A public hearing of the Senate Committee of Health & Human Services is scheduled for April 3, 2018 at 2:00 pm in LOB 101.

Sara Kellogg Meade testified in support of this bill at the public hearing of the Senate Committee on Health & Human Services on April 4, 2018. The Committee voted this bill ought to pass on April 5, 2018.

On May 3, 2018, this bill passed in the Senate.

On May 22, 2018, this bill was ordered enrolled, bill eligible for Governor.

On June 13, 2018 this bill was signed into law, Chaptered Law 0205.