

In-District Meetings 2026



Best Practices

Katherine Rowe

Grassroots Advocacy Manager

Making the Most of Your Meetings

Before

- **Prepare**
 - Research the legislator, practice your story/comments, review the issues
- **Confirm Meeting**
 - Check in **a week before** with the office or meeting coordinator
- **Dress professionally**
 - You're representing the nursing profession
- **Arrive early**
 - Aim to arrive at least **15 minutes early**
 - Touchbase and assign a notetaker

During

- **Keep it simple**
 - Don't assume prior knowledge
 - Avoid technical terminology
- **Don't stress if you don't know**
 - Just say you're not sure and that you'll follow up after!
- **Bring the issues home**
 - Talk about how the topics at hand impact your community and work
- **Make the ask**
 - Be direct, tell the lawmaker or their staff what you'd like their office to do

Making the Most of Your Meetings

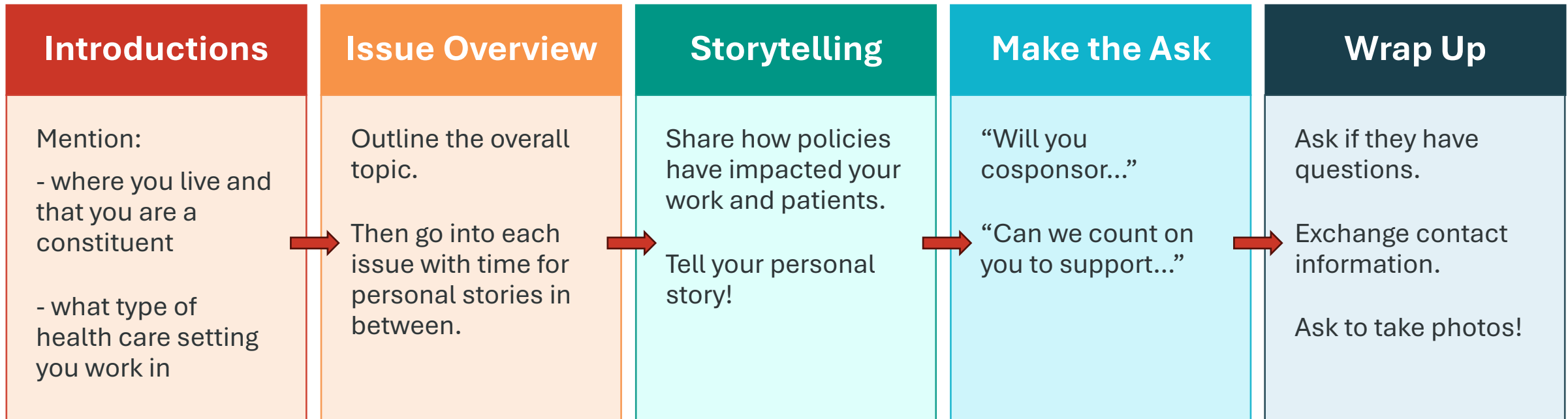
After

- Follow up
 - Send a follow up email within a week
(template in the [In-District Meeting Toolkit](#))
 - Post on social to thank and tag the representative
- Let us know how it went!
 - Fill out a '[Field Report](#)'
 - Share any photos with rnaction@ana.org



Best Practices

What your meeting might look like...





Best Practices

- **Meetings with Staff**

- Super important - staff guide and implement legislator's policy agenda

- **Be flexible**

- Member's schedules are ever-changing

- **Connect with ANA**

- PGOV staff at Gova@ana.org

FOLLOW UP!

- Send an email to the office, post on social, etc.
- Share photos - email rnaction@ana.org
- Fill out an [NAS Field Report](#)



Resources

• In-district meetings toolkit

- Scheduling an in-district meeting/site visit
- Email templates
- Recommended follow up

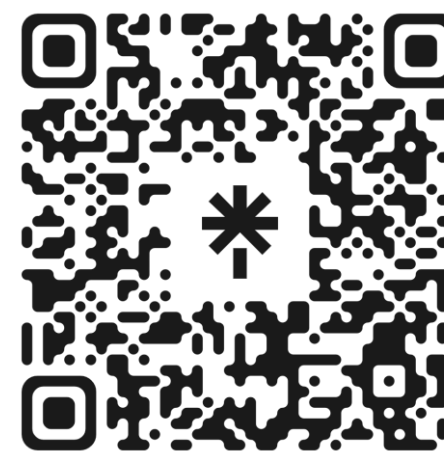
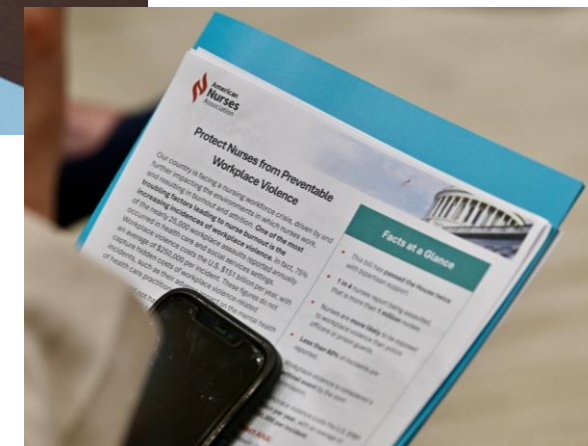
• ‘Leave behinds’

- Issue briefs, list of nursing caucus members, etc.

• Talking Points

• Webpage on [RNAAction](#)

• ANA’s Policy and Government Affairs Team - Gova@ana.org



Linktree
with all the
resources!



<https://linktr.ee/ANAIInDistrictResources>

Your story...

Connects decisions to real healthcare outcomes

Connects policies to the communities they impact



Legislative Overview

Simit Pandya

Director, Congressional and Grassroots Advocacy



Topic – Nursing Education

- Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs
 - Reauthorization through H.R. 3593 / S. 1874
 - Fiscal Year 2027 Funding
- Educating Future Nurses Act (H.R. 10410)



Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs

The Power of Nurses™



Background:

- The U.S. faces a critical nursing shortage—42 states are projected to experience deficits by 2030, including in rural and medically underserved communities.
- Faculty shortages are limiting nursing school capacity, turning away thousands of qualified applicants

What is Title VIII?

- Only dedicated federal funding source for nursing education
- Administered by HRSA since 1964, these programs support:
 - Scholarships and loan repayment
 - Faculty development and workforce diversity
 - Placement of nurses in rural and medically underserved communities
- **Goals:** (1) Expand nursing pathways; (2) Train nurse educators; Expand community-based care.

Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs

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ADVANCED NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAM - Helps support advanced practice registered nursing (APRN) students so they may practice in rural and underserved settings. Offers traineeships opportunities to expand primary care nursing workforce.

NURSE EDUCATION, PRACTICE, QUALITY AND RETENTION PROGRAM – Focuses on national nursing needs and strengthens nursing workforce capacity.

NURSING WORKFORCE DIVERSITY PROGRAM - Increases nursing education opportunities for students underrepresented in the profession by supporting career advancement for nurses with diplomas to become baccalaureate prepared registered nurses (RNs) or graduate-prepared APRNs.

NURSE FACULTY LOAN PROGRAM - Works to increase the number of qualified nurse educators by awarding funds to institutions that provide student loans to graduate students willing to serve as faculty upon graduation.

NURSE CORPS SCHOLARSHIP AND LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAMS – The Nurse Corps Scholarship Program confers scholarships to individuals who are enrolled or accepted in a school of nursing, in exchange for service of at least two years in a Critical Shortage Facility (CSF) after graduation. The Nurse Corps Loan Repayment Program assists in the recruitment and retention of RNs and APRNs to work in CSFs or as faculty in schools of nursing.

Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs

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Title VIII Reauthorization –

- Authorization lapsed on October 1, 2025.
- Last reauthorized in 2020
- Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2025 (H.R. 3593 / S. 1874) would reauthorize the Title VIII Programs through FY 2031.
- Led by Sens. Jeff Merkley (OR) and Susan Collins (ME) in Senate and Reps. Dave Joyce (OH-14) and Suzanne Bonamici (OR-1) in the House.
- H.R. 3593 passed House Energy & Commerce Health Subcommittee last September.
- S.1874 passed Senate HELP Committee in July via Manager's Amendment that included the *Nurse Faculty Shortage Reduction Act* (S.3707) and the *National Nursing Workforce Centers Act* (S.1482)

Title VIII Appropriations –

- Received just \$305M over last few years —compared to over \$17B for physician training
- House Appropriations Committee approved a FY2027 bill that provides a \$2M bump to Title VIII, but eliminates funding for the *National Workforce Diversity Program*.
- Waiting for Senate Appropriations Committee to unveil its Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bill.
- Title VIII programs continue to receive FY2026 level funding via continuing resolution that runs through December 11th.

Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs

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Tell your Members of Congress:

- Support Title VIII Reauthorization (H.R. 3593/S. 1874)
- Fund Title VIII at no less than **\$610 million** in FY 2027 appropriations
- **Share your Story:** How Title VIII has impacted your education, career, or community
- **Remind your lawmakers:** Investing in nurses means investing in America's health.



Educating Future Nurses Act (H.R. 10410)

Background:

- HRSA projects a shortage of 70,610 primary care physicians by 2038 and notes that specialty shortages may be eased by greater use of nurse practitioners (NPs).
- NPs already make up approximately 50% of the primary care workforce with more than 374,000 NPs working in primary care as of 2024.
- Jobs for NPs, nurse anesthetists, and certified nurse midwives are expected to grow 36 percent between 2025 and 2035, opening about 32,200 positions every year.
- The cost of supervised clinical hours limits the number of APRN students that hospitals can train.
- There is no permanent funding stream for graduate nursing education (GNE) that is comparable to graduate medical education which received \$21.2 billion in FY2023.

Educating Future Nurses Act (H.R. 10410)

- Establishes a permanent GNE program under Medicare to expand clinical education and training support for APRNs.
- Supports collaborative partnerships between nursing schools, community-based clinical sites, and eligible hospitals to ensure that aspiring APRNs have permanent access to vital clinical training opportunities.
- Provides Medicare reimbursement to eligible hospitals to help cover reasonable costs of providing clinical education and training for APRNs.
- Supports growth in APRN education above each nursing school's average number of APRN graduates in 2024 and 2025, ensuring that federal investments help train additional APRNs rather than simply funding existing training slots.
- Directs that a minimum of half of all clinical training occur in community-based clinical settings.
- This measure expands upon a successful GNE demonstration project authorized under the Affordable Care Act, which led to a 54% increase in APRN enrollment and 67% increase in graduation among APRNs.
- This bill is led by Reps. Lauren Underwood (IL-14), Jen Kiggans (VA-2), and Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR) in the House.
- Senate companion bill has yet to be reintroduced.



Educating Future Nurses Act (H.R. 10410)

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Tell your Members of Congress:

- **Request** – Co-sponsor H.R. 10410 in the House and support reintroduction of companion legislation in the Senate.
- **Share your Perspective:** How would a federal GNE program with a permanent funding stream help support prospective APRNs, address primary and specialty care shortages, and improve patient care?
- **Remind your Lawmakers:** When we invest in nurses, we invest in healthier communities across America.

Questions?

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