

Nurses Day of Action Partner Toolkit

November 12, 2025



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Care goes both ways. Advocate for nurses' well-being with American Nurses Association's (ANA's) **Nurses Day of Action 2025**. On **November 12**, nurses, nursing students, and healthcare advocates across the country will mobilize for workplace violence prevention, mental health support, and safer work environments.

This Partner Toolkit provides the resources and tools you need to engage with and amplify this virtual day of action. You'll find background information, a call to action, templates, social media suggestions, graphics, and more.

For questions, reach out to ANA's Policy and Government Affairs team at gova@ana.org. Visit RNAction, ANA's digital advocacy hub, for more opportunities to engage on top nursing priorities.

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Background

Nurses are the largest sector of the healthcare workforce at **more than 5 million strong**, yet the nation is facing nursing workforce shortages. Nurses are burning out, and work environment challenges are a leading reason why. The alarming reality is that:

- 1 in 4 nurses report being assaulted on the job, and less than 60% of incidents are reported.
- Healthcare workers' mental health is worse than any other segment of the U.S. workforce according to the CDC.

Congress can be doing more to protect healthcare workers. This **Day of Action**, we're building momentum for two bills that aim to improve nurses' well-being and safety.

Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act

The Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (H.R. 2531 / S. 1232) is a crucial step toward safer workplaces. If passed, the bill would:

- require the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the federal agency in charge of workplace safety, to enforce a final rule on workplace violence prevention standards and plans for healthcare employers and
- establish whistleblower protections for nurses who report violent incidents.

Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act

<u>Nearly half</u> of healthcare workers reported often feeling burned out in 2022. Enacted that same year, the *Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act* has helped:

- develop suicide prevention and substance use disorder resources,
- train healthcare workers on strategies to prevent or mitigate suicide and burnout, and
- create a national evidence-based education and awareness campaign.

Now, the bill is no longer authorized, and we're advocating for the *Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act* (*H.R.* 929 / *S.* 266) to ensure nurses continue to have access to these life-saving mental health and substance use disorder resources.



Ways to Engage

Make your voice heard:

On November 12, help flood lawmakers' inboxes and platforms with messages on the importance of nurses and their well-being.

Post on social media

- Post on social media and/or tag your legislators about nurse well-being.
- See templates on pages 4-6 and graphics on page 11.

Send your representatives a letter

- o Connect with your legislators and encourage others to do the same.
- o You can use ANA's <u>Day of Action Center</u> to easily send legislators a letter/email.

Call your representatives

- Advocate for nurses' well-being by calling your representatives and encourage your members and colleagues to do the same.
- o You can utilize ANA's <u>Day of Action Center</u> to easily call legislators' offices.

Meet with your representatives

- Schedule a meeting with your legislators or their staff to discuss these priority issues.
- Visit ANA's <u>In-District Meetings</u> page for more information and resources.

Amplify impact:

Build momentum for safer work environments by amplifying this day of action.

Engage your audiences

- o Send a newsletter, action alert, or issue a press release.
- o Ideas and templates can be found on pages 7-9.

• Letter to the editor

- Share your story and perspective by writing a letter to the editor.
- A sample letter and best practices can be found on page 10.

Get out the vote

- Voting is a <u>social determinant of health</u>. Host a voter registration drive or otherwise promote get out the vote activities.
- Visit <u>Nurses Vote</u>, ANA's voting and election hub, for additional resources.



Social Media

Suggested social media copy and ideas are below. You can direct advocates to your organization's grassroot campaigns as well as ANA's <u>Day of Action Center</u> (<u>bit.ly/NursesDayofAction</u>).

★ Be sure to use #NursesDayofAction2025, #SupportNurses, and #ThePowerOfNurses on all platforms to amplify the day of action.

Nurse well-being:

X (formerly Twitter)/Bluesky:

1 in 4 #nurses report being assaulted at work. Congress needs to act NOW to ensure that nurses are safe on the job & have the resources they need to thrive. #SupportNurses #NursesDayOfAction2025

Workplace violence is NOT part of the job. Join me in taking action for nurses' safety, #mentalhealth, & well-being this #NursesDayOfAction2025!

Care goes both ways! This #NursesDayOfAction2025, take action for nurses' well-being & #mentalhealth.

Facebook/LinkedIn/Instagram:

Did you know that 1 in 4 #nurses report being assaulted at work? Or that only 60% of assaults are reported? Congress needs to act NOW to ensure that nurses are safe at work and have the resources they need to thrive. This #NursesDayOfAction2025, join me in taking action for nurses' well-being!

Workplace violence is NOT part of the job. Join me in taking action for nurses' safety, #mentalhealth, and well-being this #NursesDayOfAction2025! Urge Congress to support and protect #nurses today.

Care goes both ways. This #NursesDayOfAction2025, take action for #nurses and their #mentalhealth! Did you know what healthcare workers mental health is worse than any other segment of the U.S. workforce according to the CDC?



TikTok video idea:

Has burnout or workplace violence impacted you? Take a video and share your story using #NursesDayOfAction2025 and urge others to join you in mobilizing for nurses' well-being.

Legislators:

Grab your federal legislators' attention by tagging them in a social media post. You can find your federal representatives <u>here</u>. If your legislators are already cosponsoring one or both priority bills, thank them! View the bill cosponsors:

- Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act
 - o H.R. 2531: See House cosponsors here.
 - o S. 1232: See Senate cosponsors here.
- Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act
 - o H.R. 929: See House cosponsors here.
 - o S. 266: See Senate cosponsors here.

X (formerly Twitter)/Bluesky:

Thank you [@leghandle] for helping #protectnurses by cosponsoring the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act!

Thank you [@leghandle] for supporting #nurses & their #mentalhealth by cosponsoring the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act!

1 in 4 #nurses report being assaulted at work. [@leghandle], we need your leadership! Help #protectnurses by cosponsoring the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act!

Did you know that healthcare workers' #mentalhealth is worse than any other segment of the U.S. workforce? [@leghandle], help support #nurses by cosponsoring the bill to reauthorize the #LornaBreenAct, H.R. 929 / S. 266!

Facebook/LinkedIn/Instagram:

Thank you [@leghandle] for helping ensure #nurses are safe and protected on the job by cosponsoring the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act, H.R. 2531 / S. 1232.



Thank you [@leghandle] for supporting nurses and their #mentalhealth by cosponsoring the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act! The bill would extend life-saving mental health resources and tools for healthcare workers.

Did you know that healthcare workers' #mentalhealth is worse than any other segment of the U.S. workforce according to the CDC? [@leghandle], help support #nurses by cosponsoring the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act!

Since becoming law in 2022, the #LornaBreenAct has provided crucial mental health and substance use disorder resources for healthcare workers. Now, the bill needs to be reauthorized, or these life-saving resources will go away!

Did you know that 1 in 4 #nurses report being assaulted at work? Or that only 60% of assaults are reported? [@leghandle], help #protectnurses by cosponsoring the Workplace Violence Prevention for Healthcare and Social Service Workers Act! #NursesDayOfAction2025

Get Out the Vote

X (formerly Twitter)/Bluesky:

Voting is a social determinant of health. In other words, voter participation is associated with better self-reported health! This #NursesDayOfAction2025, ensure you're registered and ready to vote.

Facebook/LinkedIn/Instagram:

Voting is a social determinant of health. In other words, voter participation is associated with better self-reported health! This #NursesDayOfAction2025, ensure you're registered and ready to vote. Visit NursesVote.org to check your status today!

TikTok video idea:

Encourage others to register to vote or check their registration status. Share a short video using #NursesDayOfAction2025 and #NursesVote.



Member Engagement Templates

Spread the word about the day of action! We encourage our partners to personalize the newsletter and action alert samples below to share with their members and collaborators.

Newsletter Copy

Subject line: Nurses Day of Action – Make your Mark

Join us for Nurses Day of Action on 11/12 to advocate for nurses' well-being!

Every day, health care workers face violence on the job at rates far higher than other professions. Too many nurses are burning out, leaving the workforce, or suffering in silence.

That's why we're collaborating with the American Nurses Association (ANA) for a virtual **Nurses Day of Action** on **November 12** and urging Congress to act now by passing two urgent bills:

- The Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act, and
- The Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act

These bills would help prevent workplace violence and extend mental health resources for nurses.

How You Can Help:

- Add your voice: [link to grassroots campaign or petition]
- Share your story: Post on social media using #NursesDayOfAction2025 and #ThePowerOfNurses
- Reach out to lawmakers: [link to phone call campaign]

Together, we can create safer and healthier work environments for nurses! Resources with graphics, social media ideas, and more are below:

- [Nurses Day of Action Toolkit]
- [Day of Action Center]

Thank you for your advocacy.

Sincerely,
[Organization Leader]



Action Alert

Subject line: Nurses Day of Action 2025

Today, November 12, is Nurses Day of Action!

Did you know that **1** in **4** nurses report being assaulted on the job, or that healthcare workers' mental health is worse than any other segment of the U.S. workforce according to the CDC?

On this day of action, nurses and nursing students nationwide are mobilizing to demand safer workplaces and continued mental health support for healthcare workers.

We're urging Congress to pass:

- the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act
- the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act

These bills would help prevent workplace violence and extend mental health resources for nurses respectively.

Care goes both ways—add your voice today: [Insert Link]!



Press Release

Sample

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Title/subtitle: Nurses Demand Safety and Support in the Workplace during Nurses Day of Action

[City, state] – Today, nurses and advocates across the country are mobilizing, calling on Congress to take immediate steps to protect the safety, mental health, and well-being of the nation's largest healthcare sector—nurses. The coordinated advocacy efforts focus on two urgent legislative priorities: the *Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act* and the *Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act*.

Nurses are burning out and leaving care settings or the profession altogether—and work environment challenges are a leading reason why. Healthcare workers face some of the highest rates of workplace violence, and their mental health is worse than any other segment of the U.S. workforce according to the CDC.

The Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act would require the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to finalize and enforce a rule ensuring healthcare employers implement workplace violence prevention plans. This legislation would also create whistleblower protections for nurses who report violent incidents.

The *Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act* would extend vital mental health resources and break down barriers for health professionals seeking treatment. The bill honors Dr. Lorna Breen, who tragically died by suicide during the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Care goes both ways," said ANA President Jennifer Mensik Kennedy. "These bills are not optional—they are lifesaving. Congress must act now to protect those who dedicate their lives to caring for others."

The Nurses Day of Action includes grassroots advocacy from nurses and nursing students nationwide as well as in-district meetings with legislators.

[Boilerplate]

Contact person(s): [Name, Email, Phone Number]



Letter to the Editor

Best Practices

- Double check submission guidelines at the specific organization.
- Connect it back to you and your community: share your personal perspective or story rather than general talking points. Show why readers in your community should care.
- Submit your letter within a week of the referenced article.
- Avoid personal attacks or aggressive language.

Sample

To the Editor:

The August 13th article, "The United States Needs More Nurses" was a great overview of the struggles of working in healthcare. However, it doesn't capture the full picture. As a nurse working in a hospital in rural Ohio for 10 years, I know firsthand the dedication it takes to care for patients. Yet, too often, myself and others on the frontlines of healthcare face danger and burnout.

I have been cursed out, hit, and spit on while trying to care for patients. While I love my job, it takes courage to go to each shift and care for patients—but it shouldn't have to. How can we provide the compassionate high-quality care we strive for when we are unsafe and unsupported at work?

As Congress debates bills that could greatly benefit nurses and their well-being, we must no longer be silent about the violence we're experiencing on the job. The *Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act* would require the Occupational Safety and Health Administration to finalize and enforce a rule that ensures healthcare employers implement workplace violence prevention plans. Had this legislation already been in place when I experienced some of the above incidents, I might have reported them, as it would also create whistleblower protections for nurses who report violent incidents.

Protecting nurses isn't partisan politics, it's about doing what's right and investing in the future of healthcare in the United States.

[Name, Credentials] [City, State]



Graphics

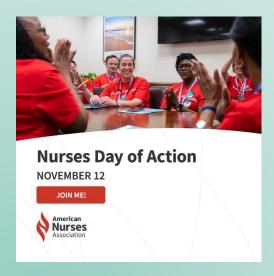
ANA has created a series of assets for you to use on your organization's website and social media platforms to promote **Nurses Day of Action 2025**.

The series has these standard ad sizes:

- Social media newsfeed
- Social media story
- Social media square

Download the social media graphics here.









Resources

Prepare for a successful day of action with these resources.

- Day of Action Center: Easily engage in the day of action using ANA's Day of Action Center.
- **Find my Representative**: Unsure who your Representative and Senators are? Input your address to find out.
- Legislation Lookup: Learn more about nursing issues and legislation. Search for bills by sponsor, title, key committee, and more.
- RNAction Center: Take action for top nursing priorities using ANA's action center.
- Nursing Caucuses: Members on the House and Senate Nursing Caucuses are our nursing champions. See if your representatives are part of their caucus.
- <u>Legislative Process</u>: Familiarize yourself with the legislative process.
- Policy and Government Affairs at ANA: Have questions about legislation that impacts nursing or about advocacy? Reach out to ANA's Policy and Government Affair's team at gova@ana.org.

