



May 17, 2023



May 8: The Academy, along with members of the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) signed onto a letter urging Congress to **take action on top appropriations and legislative priorities that impact nursing education, workforce, practice, and research.** [Read more.](#)

May 4: The Academy, along with members of the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) signed onto a letter to Members of Congress **commending their support of S.131/H.R. 618, the Improving Access to Workers Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act.** This bipartisan legislation would retire outdated barriers in the Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA) that limit the ability of NPs to provide care and treatment for injured or ill federal employees. [Read more.](#)

May 1: The Academy joined an amicus brief along with the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and other health care organizations **supporting the appeal of the District Court in Texas ruling of Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. FDA.** The district court ruling would prevent the distribution of mifepristone around the country. [Read more.](#)

April 28: The Academy joined an amicus brief along with the American Academy of Pediatrics and other health care organizations in **support of a challenge to a Florida Medicaid rule limiting access to gender-affirming medical care.** The rule denies Medicaid recipients in Florida with gender dysphoria access to evidence-based treatments designed to improve health outcomes and alleviate suffering. [Read more.](#)

April 23: The Academy joined an amicus brief along with the American Academy of Pediatrics and other health care organizations in **support of a challenge to the decision by the Florida Medical Board to restrict access to gender-affirming care for adolescents.** [Read more.](#)

April 19: The Academy signed onto letters to House and Senate Appropriations leaders asking them to **provide \$35 million for the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), \$25 million for the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and \$1 million for the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) to conduct public health research into firearm morbidity and mortality prevention in fiscal year 2024.** [Read more.](#)

April 14: The Academy joined an amicus brief along with the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and other health care organizations to the Supreme Court of the United States that would **prevent the District Court in Texas decision on Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. FDA from being enforced as the court case moved through the legal system.** [Read more.](#)

April 11: The Academy joined an amicus brief along with the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and other health care organizations **supporting the appeal of the District Court ruling of Alliance for Hippocratic Medicine v. FDA.** The district court ruling would prevent the distribution of mifepristone around the country. Mifepristone is a drug

approved by the FDA over two decades ago for use in reproductive care. Should the ruling be upheld, it could set up future challenges to the FDA's scientific and evidence-based process for drug approval. [Read more.](#)

April 10: The Academy joined a letter to Congress **recommending \$20 million in funding for Fiscal Year 2024 for the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention Hospitals Promoting Breastfeeding program.** [Read more.](#)

April 4: The Academy, along with members of the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) signed onto written testimony submitted to the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies. The testimony featured **funding requests of at least \$530 million for the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs and at least \$210 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research for Fiscal Year 2024.** [Read more.](#)



Florida Governor Ron DeSantis signed legislation, House Bill 999/Senate Bill 266, into law on Monday that bans the state's public colleges and universities from spending money on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) programs, which will go into effect on July 1, 2023. There are currently 34 similar pieces of legislation introduced in 20 states that would either prohibit DEI inclusion offices or staff, ban mandatory diversity training, prohibit the use of diversity statements in hiring and promotion, or prohibit colleges from using demographic data like race, sex, ethnicity, or national origin in admissions and employment decisions. (Source: [Chronicle of Higher Education](#))

All of the 34 bills introduced are modeled after the state legislation framework proposed by the conservative and libertarian think tanks, the Goldwater and Manhattan Institutes. At this time, the only other state to have signed this type of legislation into law is North Dakota; Governor Doug Burgum signed Senate Bill No. 2247 on April 24th which would ban mandatory diversity training and the use of diversity statements. View all current bills [here](#).

The expansion of legislation to curtail DEI initiatives within higher education indicates a national trend that could impact the future of nursing practice. Studies have shown the importance of patients seeing providers with similar backgrounds, similar genders, or with cultural bias training (Source: [Saha et al](#); [Fink et al](#); and [Bailey et al](#)). In collaboration with the EDI committee, the Academy is committed to hosting a conversation later this year on policies that impact the ability to achieve health equity.



## EXPERT PANEL POLICY WORK

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*The Board approved the following Proposals and Consensus papers, which were submitted by the [Academy's Expert Panels](#).*

### **Policy Priority Area: Increase Accessibility to All Forms of Health Care**

Proposal: Access to Nursing Care for Mental Health and Substance Use Problems

[Psychiatric, Mental Health & Substance Use Expert Panel](#)

- This manuscript will signal a shift towards more flexible, systems-focused policies that will improve access to care for patients with mental health and substance use problems.

Proposal: Armed Conflict & Humanitarian Crises: Policies to Promote Equity in Healing and Health

[Global Nursing and Health Expert Panel](#)

- This manuscript will focus on the issues involved in recovery from armed conflict and ways that nursing can impact this ongoing humanitarian crisis.

### **Policy Priority Area: Promote High-Impact Advances in Practice, Innovation, and Science**

Consensus Paper: The Importance of Maternal-Infant Interaction Quality: Policy Implications

[Breastfeeding, Maternal & Infant Health](#), and the [Psychiatric, Mental Health & Substance Use Expert Panels](#)

- This consensus paper will examine current trends in nursing practice regarding the nurse's role in promoting high-quality evidence based maternal-infant interaction and make policy recommendations for reducing disparities in maternal-infant interaction.

### **Policy Priority Area: Build Capacity to Support Nurses and Other Providers**

Proposal: Policy Brief: Night Shift Nurse Short-and Long-Term Negative Health Outcomes and Organizational Costs

[Health Behavior Expert Panel](#)

- Numerous demands are put on nurses who work the night shift. There is a growing body of evidence to indicate that nurses who work nights are at significantly greater risk for chronic illnesses. This manuscript will explore the negative health outcomes for these nurses and concomitant organizational costs.



## FELLOW OPPORTUNITIES

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### Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA)

- [Recruiting Grant Reviewers](#): The Division of Grant Review (DGR) is recruiting reviewers for the fiscal year 2023 who have academic qualifications and professional work experience in mental health services, preventing substance misuse, and/or treating substance use disorder. [Learn more.](#)
    - Please contact DGR at [reviewer@samhsa.hhs.gov](mailto:reviewer@samhsa.hhs.gov) for more information or go to their website to [submit your information](#).
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### The National Academy of Medicine (NAM)

- May 25: [After Roe: Physician Perspectives & Workforce Implications](#)
- May 25: [Advancing Health and Well-Being of Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander \(AANHPI\) Communities through Leadership Development and a Shared Health Equity Research Agenda](#)

### The National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM)

- June 26-27: [Defining and Evaluating In-Home Drug Disposal Systems for Opioid Analgesics](#)
  - June 22-23: [Examining the Working Definition for Long COVID - Workshop](#)
  - June 21: [The Ecosystem of Health Equity Measures: A Workshop](#)
  - May 17-18: [Advancing Antiracism, Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in STEMM Organizations – Report Workshop](#)
  - May 15-16: [Addressing the Rising Mental Health Needs of an Aging Population: A Workshop](#)
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### Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

- [CDC's Disease Detectives Give First-Hand Accounts from the Front Lines of Public Health](#)
- [Transcript: Public Health Emergency \(PHE\) Briefing](#)

### Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS)

- [HHS Releases Proposal to Expand Health Care for DACA Recipients](#)



## Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

- [HHS Secretary Xavier Becerra's Statement on EMTALA Enforcement](#)
- [Fact Sheet: Celebrating Mental Health Awareness Month 2023](#)
- [Secretary Becerra Announces New Initiatives at HHS Mental Health Summit to Strengthen Access to Mental Health Care](#)
- [Statement by Secretary Xavier Becerra on National Nurses Week](#)
- [Fact Sheet: End of the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#)
- [HHS Fact Sheet: Telehealth Flexibilities and Resources and the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency](#)

## Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA)

- May 18: [Highlighting Maternal Mental Health Month](#)
- May 17: [Connecting Women to Health Care Through HRSA's Programs](#)

## National Institutes on Health (NIH)

- [NIH study identifies features of Long COVID neurological symptoms](#)
- [Anti-poverty programs may help reduce disparities in brain development and mental health symptoms in children](#)
- [School prevalence of stimulant therapy for ADHD associated with higher rates of prescription stimulant misuse among teens](#)
- [Biomarker pattern found in kids with COVID 19-linked inflammatory syndrome](#)
- ["Eat, Sleep, Console" reduces hospital stay and the need for medication among opioid-exposed infants](#)



*Based on previous positions taken by the Academy, the following scan is meant for informational purposes and does not directly translate to Academy endorsement. Links provided allow you to watch the recordings and read witness testimony.*

## House Committee on Appropriations

- April 26: [Oversight Hearing – Provider Relief Fund And Healthcare Workforce Shortages](#)

## House Committee on Education & The Workforce

- April 26: [Reducing Health Care Costs For Working Americans And Their Families](#)

## House Committee on Energy & Commerce

- May 11: [Health Subcommittee Hearing: Preparing For And Responding To Future Public Health Security Threats](#)
- April 28: [Oversight And Investigations Subcommittee Hearing: Antimicrobial Resistance: Examining An Emerging Public Health Threat](#)

## Senate Committee on Appropriations

- May 4: [Subcommittee Hearing: A Review of the President's Fiscal Year 2024 Funding Request and Budget Justification for the National Institutes of Health](#)

**Senate Committee on Finance**

- May 17: [Improving Health Care Access in Rural Communities: Obstacles and Opportunities](#)
- May 3: [Barriers to Mental Health Care: Improving Provider Directory Accuracy to Reduce the Prevalence of Ghost Networks](#)

**Senate Committee on Health, Education Labor & Pensions**

- May 17: [A Crisis in Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Care: Closing Gaps in Access by Bringing Care and Prevention to Communities](#)
  - May 12: [Roundtable: How Can We Improve Health Workforce Diversity and Address Shortages? A Conversation with Historically Black College and University Leaders and Students](#)
  - May 10: [The Need to Make Insulin Affordable for All Americans](#)
  - May 4: [Preparing for the Next Public Health Emergency: Reauthorizing the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act](#)
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