

June Government Affairs Committee

Date: June 8, 2022

Attendees: Jamla Rizek (Chairperson), Wendy Allen-Thompson, Cathy Conboy, Linda Yonkin,

Update from National:

1. **Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (S. 4182)**
 - a. The bill was reintroduced today by Sen. Tammy Baldwin, **S. 4182** is the bill number.
 - b. This is a great excuse to follow-up with Senate offices to let them know the bill #.
 - c. Be on the lookout for an upcoming Action Alert on this bill.
2. **Sen. Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) brought the House-passed version of the workplace violence bill up for a procedural motion on the Senate floor.**
 - a. You can see Sen. Baldwin's actions and responses here: https://floor.senate.gov/MediaPlayer.php?view_id=2&clip_id=4665
 - b. Sen. Baldwin begins at 02:25:00 and the exchange ends around 02:37:35
3. **Arizona Enacts Workplace Violence Prevention Law**
 - a. Arizona Gov. Doug Ducey signed into law SB 1311, which makes some important changes to Arizona law governing violence against health care workers. Currently, the law allows prosecutors in Arizona to criminally charge individuals who assault licensed health care practitioners, including emergency nurses, while engaged in their professional duties. This new law expands that population to cover more health care workers while they are at work.
 - b. This bill requires healthcare employers to implement and maintain a written workplace violence prevention plan by July 1, 2023.

Day on the Hill Update:

1. Representative Yvette Clarke, voted for all three items. Her aide promised to meet with us but never got back with a meeting or date. A thank you note was sent for her support for these three bills.
2. Senator Chuck Schumer's Aide Dili Sundaramoorthy had set up a zoom meeting with us for 2:30 pm on Wednesday, May 4. This was cancelled about a half hour before we were supposed to start. A letter was sent asking Senator Schumer to support all three bills and their importance for Emergency Nurses and thanking him for his attention to these items.
3. Senator Gillibrand never answered the for a meeting. A note was sent asking for her to support the bills and thanking her for attention to these items.

In the News:

1. [RaDonda Vaught case: Nurse sentenced to three years of probation for a lethal medical error - Vox](#)
2. Safe Staffing, Nurse to Patient ratios. [Nurses For Safe Staffing | NursesTakeDC](#)

3. [Orlando nurses walk out in protest after understaffing led to unnoticed patient suicide - World Socialist Web Site \(wsws.org\)](#)
4. [Tulsa hospital shooting victims identified, one was gunman's surgeon, police say | Fox News](#)
5. [Doctor, nurses stabbed at California hospital; man arrested | AP News](#)
6. New York among four states considering legislation banning mandatory overtime [Lawmakers move to protect nurses from mandatory overtime \(beckershospitalreview.com\)](#)
7. Will adding five letters help prevent medication errors? [At US Hospitals, a Drug Mix-Up Is Just a Few Keystrokes Away | Kaiser Health News \(khn.org\)](#)

Respectfully submitted, Jamla