



2017 IDAHO LEGISLATURE

UPDATE

January 30, 2017 through February 2, 2017

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Week 4

This week House and Senate Committees have completed review of agency rules, and new bills are being introduced. In addition to hearing rules and bills, early in the session is an opportunity for groups, especially those supported by state funds, to present their programs and progress to the legislative committees. This week the Time Sensitive Emergency Council, the Foster Care Program and the Idaho Caregivers Alliance made presentations in the Health and Welfare Committees. Here are highlights of those events along with bills of interest to nursing:

Presentations to House and Senate Health and Welfare Committees

Time Sensitive Emergency Council

The Time Sensitive Emergency Council (TSE) was formed in 2013 by the Idaho Legislature to structure statewide response to time critical medical emergencies including Trauma, Stroke and STEMI. STEMI is a type of myocardial infarction demonstrated by ST segment elevation on EKG that is responsive to timely catheterization and thrombolysis. In the same way, early identification and intervention of thrombotic stroke can prevent death or severe disability. The "Golden Hour" in Trauma along with advances in trauma management demonstrated in civilian and combat experiences has saved many lives. It is well documented that a systematic approach that includes early notification, trained EMS response, and early hospital intervention for Trauma, Stroke and STEMI saves lives. Over the past year, the Council has adopted rules for the designation of Trauma, Stroke and STEMI Centers; Level II, III, IV and V for Trauma, Level I, II and III for Stroke, and Level I and II for STEMI. Level I Trauma Centers are affiliated with University Medical Centers, so Idaho does not have a Level I Center, but does have designated Level II Centers in Boise and Idaho Falls with the clinical capabilities for major trauma. Lost Rivers Hospital in Arco was the state's first designated Level IV Trauma Center which allows smaller critical access hospitals to play a vital role in stabilizing and transferring trauma patients. The Level V designation allows rural clinics to participate in the organized system of care.



Idaho Designated Time Sensitive Emergency Centers

Name	Trauma	Stroke	STEMI
Saint Alphonsus Regional Medical Center- Boise	Level II	Level II	Level I
Eastern Idaho Regional Medical Center - Idaho Falls	Level II	Level II	Level I
St. Luke's Boise Medical Center - Boise		Level II	Level I
St. Luke's Meridian Medical Center - Meridian		Level II	Level I
Lost Rivers Medical Center - Arco	Level IV		
Clearwater Valley Hosp - Orofino	Level IV		
Teton Valley Hosp - Driggs	Level IV		
Kootenai Health - Coeur d'Alene	Level II		

Foster Care Program – Children’s Mental Health

Efforts by the Department of Health and Welfare to address Children’s Mental Health are being seen. Attention during the 2016 Legislative Session appropriated additional funds for improved social services and Crisis Centers now in Lewiston, Idaho Falls, Twin Falls and Boise, and addressed issues within the Department of Health and Welfare related to the Foster Care Program. These initiatives have been focused on support services for the mentally ill to improve compliance with treatment programs, increase support for caregivers and educators, and assure the availability of trained crisis intervention as an alternative to hospitalization or juvenile detention. The Department of Health and Welfare has made significant changes to keep children in their foster homes, to keep siblings together, and to support foster parents and children with mentors and resources to maintain the integrity of the family and respect the efforts of foster parents.

Idaho Caregiver Alliance

A study by the Center for Aging at Boise State University identified 300,000 family caregivers throughout the state who provide unpaid home care to family members who are disabled. The Idaho Caregiver Alliance is a collective representing the support needs for those providing care within the family across all ages and demographics. The Alliance receives no funding from the state or federal government. The work of family caregivers amounts to over 200 million hours of care that delays the need for costly placement in assisted living or long-term care facilities. 70% of those providing home care, work part or full time. The Center on Aging along with the Alliance have identified several goals:

- Provide relieve and respite support for the caregivers
- Ensure information for caregivers is useful and appropriate including provide “support navigation” for caregivers



- Expand the “Powerful Tools for Caregivers” program with a focus on health and resiliency of caregivers. Syringa Hospital in Grangeville has been one of the first to utilize the program
- Increase awareness for the needs of caregivers including the “211 Careline” and the “Idaho Living Well” web portal
- Integrate caregiver advocacy across social systems including tax credits for family caregivers
- Advance infrastructure for family caregiver support, an entity and voice for caregivers

The House H&W Committee introduced a Concurrent Resolution, The Idaho Family Caregiver Action Plan.”

Prescriptive Authority for Psychologists

The limited availability of mental health resources, especially in rural communities of the state, argues for the ability of psychologists to be able to prescribe some anti-depressants, anti-psychotics and other drugs. According to the Idaho Psychological Association, they have been working on a bill for the past two years, but don’t feel they have the support to advance a bill this year. They have encountered resistance from psychiatrists and the Idaho Medical Association. Other groups including naturopaths and chiropractors do have bills circulating to grant or expand prescriptive authority for their professions. I am interested to hear from clinic nurses and nurse practitioners how you perceive the need to advance prescriptive authority for psychologists. Please e-mail me at mcgraneconsulting@gmail.com.

Idaho Suicide Prevention Advocacy Day – February 15, 2017

Suicide Prevention is an important legislative effort of ANA Idaho and Nurse Leaders of Idaho. Join the Idaho Suicide Prevention Coalition at the Capitol February 15th to advocate for this cause. This day is an opportunity to visit with legislators to educate them on the efforts that have been made to prevent suicide and what more can be done. The registration deadline is February 8, 2017. <http://afsp.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=a54034b452af88819b782e177&id=95dd6c9e59&e=61137d255c>

Bills of Interest to Nursing

- H0003** **PHARMACISTS** – Allows pharmacists to prescribe and administer a tuberculin purified derivative product for screening purposes under certain circumstances. Passed House. Scheduled for second reading in Senate.
- H004** **PHARMACISTS** – Allows pharmacists to prescribe tobacco cessation products. Passed House. Scheduled for second reading in Senate.
- S1003** **NURSES LICENSES, EMERITUS/REINSTATE** - Eliminates the necessity for a nurse to renew a license on emeritus status. The bill has been assigned to the Senate Commerce and Human Resources Committee.
- S1004** **NURSING BOARD COMPENSATION REVISED** – Increase compensation for Board of Nursing members from \$50/day to \$75/day. Passed Senate. Sent to House.



CALL TO ACTION

Nurses Day at the Idaho State Capitol

Wednesday, February 22, 2017

11:00 – 12:00 Preparation, Message Points

12:00 – 1:00 Visit with Senators and Representatives – First Floor Rotunda

In advance of Nurses Day at the Capitol, schedule 15 minutes to introduce yourself and tell your Representatives or Senator about yourself, your area of practice, and how important nursing is to the health of Idaho.

To find your Representative or Senator, go to

<https://legislature.idaho.gov/legislators/>

There you can input your address and find your Senator and Representatives along with their e-mail addresses and phone numbers.