

Dear Colleagues,

We have great opportunities in 2015 to personally make a difference in our patient's access to care. We also have a responsibility as nurses to act as advocates for the people of Arkansas to ensure that they can receive the care they need **when they need it**.

The Arkansas Nurses Association's Committee for Health Policy would like to include you as an advocacy partner in our grassroots coalition-building efforts to improve communication and to facilitate the ability to respond quickly to legislative actions affecting the delivery of safe, quality health care in our state.

We need volunteers from all over the state who are willing to meet or correspond with their legislators on behalf of improving access to care. We also need to create a rapid communication network for quickly sharing and acting on information as it becomes available. Several bills will be introduced very soon that will be directly affecting nurses and the care they are able to deliver, so we need you to participate in any capacity you can! **Every nurse has the ability to make a difference.**

Even though we need nurses for every legislator, our coalition's starting point is to identify nurses who are interested in learning how to act as Advocacy Leaders for each of these Arkansas State Representatives and Senators, who will be serving on the 2015-2016 Public Health, Welfare, and Labor Committees:

- Rep. Frederick J. Love
- Rep. Kelley Linck
- Rep. Jeff Wardlaw
- Rep. Kim Hammer
- Rep. David L. Branscum
- Rep. David Meeks
- Rep. Betty Overbey
- Rep. Chris Richey
- Rep. Stephen Magie
- Rep. Josh Miller
- Rep. Richard Womack
- Rep. Ken Bragg
- Rep. Charlene Fite
- Rep. Deborah Ferguson
- Rep. John Payton
- Rep. Robin Lundstrum
- Rep. Mary Bentley
- Rep. Justin Boyd
- Rep. Ken Henderson
- Rep. Dan Sullivan
- Sen. Cecile Bledsoe
- Sen. Stephanie Flowers
- Sen. Missy Irvin
- Sen. Keith Ingram
- Sen. Gary Stubblefield
- Sen. David Sanders
- Sen. John Cooper
- Sen. Scott Flippo

If you are unsure of who your legislators will be for the 90th General Assembly of the Arkansas State Legislature, we are including an attachment to assist you in determining your correct Representative or Senator. Please reply to this email message at arnagrassroots@gmail.com if you would like to learn more about how you can help with this grassroots effort to improve access to care in Arkansas.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

Mary Garnica, DNP, APRN, FNP-BC
Health Policy Chairperson

Rhonda Finnie, DNP, APRN, AGACNP-BC
ARNA President

Cheryl Perry, BSN, RN, Grassroots Coordinator

arnagrassroots@gmail.com