

July 24, 2017

Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of the State of New York
New York State Capitol Building
Albany, New York 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo,

The American Nurses Association – New York is respectfully requesting that you sign into law A1842B / S6768 BS in 10 Bill.

A nursing workforce of baccalaureate prepared Registered Professional Nurses:

- Improves the health of the citizens of New York.
 - A 10% increase in the proportion of Baccalaureate (BS) prepared nurses decreases the risk of patient death by 5% (Aiken, et al. 2003, 2007, 2008, 2011, & 2014; Estabrooks, et al. 2005; Tourangeau et al. 2007; Blegen & Goode, 2009).
 - With 60% of nurses prepared at the BS level, 6,000 fewer surgical deaths are projected for NYS annually.
 - Hospitals with a higher proportion of BS educated nurses have lower rates of congestive heart failure mortality, hospital acquired pressure ulcers, failure to rescue, and length of inpatient stay.
- Decreases the cost of healthcare for the Empire State
 - Improved patient outcomes reduce the cost of healthcare and avoid payment reductions per the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services guidelines.
 - With 60% of nurses prepared at the BS level, a 10% reduction is projected in the 200,000 hospital acquired pressure ulcers, potentially saving \$17.5 million annually from reduced length of stay.
 - Reduced readmissions eliminate payment penalties.
 - BS prepared RNs have higher job satisfaction and longer job tenure. Every 1% reduction in RN turnover saves \$12.9 million statewide.
 - A better-educated nursing profession will achieve the Medicaid Redesign Team goal of shifting health care to a less expensive more efficient primary care model.
- Geographically levels the playing field across New York State.
 - All NYS citizens deserve the same level of nursing care regardless of geographic location. There should be one level of care for All New Yorkers. This bill elevates the education requirements statewide so all patients have cutting edge healthcare no matter the region in which they live.

We acknowledge and thank you for your leadership and for keeping New York State at the forefront of the nation in protecting our most vulnerable populations and ensuring the best healthcare for all residents. We are excited that, once again, New York can lead the nation by

implementing this recommendation and bringing the United States closer to other nations in preparing RNs to provide the best possible patient care while reducing the cost of healthcare.

Sincerely,

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President

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