

Memorandum in Support – A6697 (Assemblymember Fahy)
Relates to temporarily authorizing certain applicants for licensure as a nurse or physician to practice

The American Nurses Association-New York (ANA-NY), on behalf of its members and their patients, **supports** the passage of A6697 (Fahy), which would provide temporary authorization for nurses who are licensed in other states to practice in New York. ANA-NY is a professional nursing organization representing the interests of New York State's 360,000 registered nurses. ANA-NY advances the nursing profession by fostering high standards of nursing care, supporting the professional and educational advancement of nurses, and promoting the welfare of nurses to the end that all people may have better health care.

A6697 seeks to address New York's healthcare staffing crisis by authorizing 180-day temporary licenses to nurses who are currently licensed in other states to practice in New York. The need for this legislation is critical, as the impending expiration of Executive Order 4 will overwhelm the State's healthcare systems. Many out-of-state nurses are practicing in New York under the authorization of Executive Order 4 and will lose the ability to do so when that order expires.

While this legislation will address the impact of the expiration of Executive Order 4, a better long-term solution to this issue would be for New York to adopt the Nurse Licensure Compact. Thirty-nine other states have already adopted the NLC, and given the changing nature of healthcare delivery, it is time that New York join these other states in adopting the NCL. Adopting the NCL would not only alleviate this current issue, but it would allow out-of-state nurses to easily come to New York and not have to work with a temporary license while their New York license is being reviewed and approved.

While ANA-NY believes that adopting the NCL is the better long-term solution, we know that we need a short-term solution to address the current situation, and for those reason, ANA-NY **supports** A6697 (Fahy).