

PROPOSAL 2007- 4

Promote funding to the Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety

Subject:

Patient Safety Improvement Act

Proposed by:

The Nebraska Nurses Association (NNA) District III

Contact Person:

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Type of Proposal:

New Action

Rationale:

Healthcare studies show an alarming increase in medical errors that result in the death of patients who entrusted their life, or the life of a loved one, to the healthcare system. The United States is in the middle of a healthcare crisis that is creating mandatory changes across the system and in every setting. The Nebraska State Legislature passed the Patient Safety Improvement Act in 2005; however, failed to provide funding for the effective implementation of the program.

The Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety (NCPS) is comprised of various healthcare professional organizations “committed to achieving excellence in health care delivery” (NCPS, 2006). The goal of the organization is to consistently deliver high quality care by learning from each other reported adverse events, or near misses, and sharing information to prevent duplicate occurrences. The information reported would be protected from discovery.

Funding the Coalition for Patient Safety would assist the organization in compiling reported events, analyzing data, communicating best standards of practice and evidence-based care, collaborating with other quality organizations and providing annual educational seminars to promote quality patient care.

Recommendations:

The Nebraska Nurses Association shall:

- Promote funding of the Legislative Patient Safety Improvement Act
- Work with health care organizations to promote reporting of adverse events and near misses
- Ensure nurses are involved in the continued support of the NCPS, along with other healthcare professional organizations.

Past House Actions:

None

Relation to Mission and Vision Statements:

This proposal directly relates to the ANA's and NNA's core issues of Patient Safety and Advocacy

References:

The Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety, 2005
Institute of Healthcare Improvement (IHI)
ANA Core Issues
NNA Mission & Vision

Proposed Implementation Activities:

1. Lobby the Legislature for funding
2. Communicate issues of the Nebraska Coalition for Patient Safety across the NNA membership.
3. Continue collaboration with the Nebraska Hospital Association, Nebraska Pharmacy organization, Nebraska Medical Association, and Physician Assistant organization.

Range of Direct Costs :

Unknown

Funding Available from Alternative Sources:

Currently being provided through healthcare organizations, providers, and other donations.