

# 35<sup>th</sup> National Black Nurses' Day on Capitol Hill

## Health Equity, Reckoning & Wellness: NBNA's Renewed Call to Action

### Supporting the Nursing Workforce

The National Black Nurses Association supports comprehensive efforts to increase access to care for all Americans through changes that will address full practice authority and State Compact Licensure for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs). The nation is becoming increasingly older and racially/ethnically diverse. With an aging and racially/ethnically diverse population, populations with limited access to care must have full access to quality and cost-efficient healthcare. APRNs have advanced education and unique skills to provide safe, cost-effective care.

#### **Background**

- APRNs, at their entry point of practice from an accredited graduate program and national certification, are prepared to provide safe, efficient, and cost-effective health care.
- APRN mobility is essential to provide greater access to care and protect patients' safety.
- In 2020, the National Council of State Boards of Nursing adopted the APRN Compact Licensure.
- Compact Licensure allows an individual to hold one multistate license with the privilege to practice in other compact states.
- Only three states have implemented the APRN Compact.
- Compact licensure requires the inclusion of seven states.
- Full APRN multistate licensure must be codified to improve access to care and provide a path to health equity for all.

#### **Recommendations: NBNA calls on the 118<sup>th</sup> Congress to:**

- Support legislation that will standardize APRN practice across the country related to state statutes, rules, and regulations.
- Pass federal legislation that will codify APRN multi-state licensure.
- Eliminate the inclusion of practice hours as a prerequisite for an APRN multi-state license.
- Eliminate the compact licensure requirement for including seven states to allow APRNs full practice authority.
- Support **H.R.8812/ S.5212 - *Improving Care and Access to Nurses (ICAN) Act***, which would improve health care access for Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries by removing barriers to practice for nurse practitioners (NPs) and other advanced practice registered nurses (APRNs).

## References

American Nurses Association. APRN policy and regulations: Scope of practice

<https://www.nursingworld.org/advanced-practice/employee-engagement-and-retention/>

American Association of Nurse Practitioners. Position statement: APRN compact licensure.

[https://files.constantcontact.com/60f46922601/ff98361a-0014-4b72-a6ac-](https://files.constantcontact.com/60f46922601/ff98361a-0014-4b72-a6ac-1fb6f81051c6.pdf)

[1fb6f81051c6.pdf](https://files.constantcontact.com/60f46922601/ff98361a-0014-4b72-a6ac-1fb6f81051c6.pdf)

National Council State Boards of Nursing. Model legislation for states to enact the APRN

compact <https://www.ncsbn.org/compacts/aprn-compact.page>

Nurse Practitioner Alliance of Alabama. Nurse practitioner alliance of Alabama.

<https://www.npalliancealabama.org/aboutnpaa>

The American Telemedicine Association. Advanced practice registered nurse compact.

<https://www.americantelemed.org/resources/aprn-compact/>