



Maryland Association of Nurse Anesthetists

3601 East Joppa Road
Baltimore, MD 21234
(410) 931-8100
www.crnasofmd.org

Mission

To modernize legislation and regulations to be consistent with current clinical practices of Nurse Anesthetists and to specifically remove the requirement of the Collaborative Agreement for Nurse Anesthetists.

Strategy

To seek the introduction of legislation that would modernize the statute to reflect what is currently occurring clinically in Maryland and to remove the requirement to file the "Nurse Anesthetist Notification of Collaboration."

Background

The Maryland Board of Nursing requires CRNAs to submit a document referred to as a "Nurse Anesthetist Notification of Collaboration". It requires the Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetist to provide the name and license number of a "Collaborating Anesthesiologist, Physician or Dentist" that the CRNA is expected to work with. The MBON will only accept one of these documents per provider. In practice, a CRNA coordinates with many providers in many institutions and this document does not guarantee a relationship between the identified collaborator and the CRNA. The current regulations do not accurately reflect what is occurring in many clinical settings.

Previous Efforts

In 2016, the Maryland Association of Nurse Anesthetists supported and lobbied for the Maryland Board of Nursing proposed regulations that would have modernized the regulations and removed the requirement for filing the "Nurse Anesthetist Notification of Collaboration". Many states have been successful using this strategy. The proposed regulations cleared review by the Maryland General Assembly, then the AELR committee, and only needed the Maryland Secretary of the Department of Mental Health and Hygiene (DHMH) to sign it. Unfortunately, the Secretary declined to sign for the final adoption of the regulations and therefore the proposed regulations expired. All other MD APRN disciplines (NP, CNM and CNS) have been successful in removing the collaboration requirement via statutes or regulations. We now seek parity with the other APRNs. Further regulatory efforts look unfavorable with an Interim Secretary of DHMH in place so legislative relief is the logical next step.



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Plan - Legislative Action

Education of MANA members

This white sheet has been prepared and shared on the members only side of the MANA website at www.crnasofmd.org. Emails and letters will be sent directing members to the site for more information. At the Fall meeting on October 13, 2017, MANA lobbyist, Bill Kress, and Government Relations Chairperson Chris Robel gave a presentation and Q&A session. Your attendance is strongly encouraged. Additionally, town hall sessions will be scheduled for late October/early November to inform the MANA membership.

Education of Legislators

A separate white sheet and PowerPoint presentation will be prepared and presented to members of both the state Senate and House, especially within the appropriate committees. Visits to these legislators will be scheduled and MANA member constituents of each will be invited by email or phone to attend the meetings.

Fundraising

We will continue to solicit donations to MANA-PAC. [Donations can be made on the MANA website](#). Donations to key supporters is a critical part of the strategic plan and the PAC will play a crucial role in facilitating this.

What Can I Do?

- Attend the Fall meeting or a MANA town hall event.
- When asked by MANA, write or call your representatives just to inform them you are a CRNA and this is what you do for Maryland patients: ensure safety, expand access to care and promote equitable practice for all APRNs.
- Be ready to attend a legislator meeting if invited, or attend on your own to inform them what we do.
- Donate to MANA-PAC.
- Finally, attend the hearings in Annapolis once the bill makes it to committee.