

## LSNA Legislative Update

**HB 246 Medication Attendants**— MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2007 at 2:30 p.m.—will be considered for third and final reading AND final passage through the HOUSE. Next step will be on to the Senate H&W Committee Hearing for consideration if successfully passed through the House. PLEASE CONTACT YOUR REPRESENTATIVES AND/OR SENATORS REGARDING LSNA'S POSITION AND ENCOURAGE THEM TO SUPPORT THIS LEGISLATION.

**HB 251 RESPIRATORY THERAPIST SCOPE OF PRACTICE** MONDAY, JUNE 4, 2007 at 2:30 p.m.—will be considered for third and final reading AND for final passage through the HOUSE. Next step will be on to the Senate H&W Committee Hearing for consideration if successfully passed through the House.

**HB 673 RN PERFORMING MEDICAL SCREENING EVALUATION IN RURAL EMERGENCY DEPARTMENTS**. This bill was rescheduled and will be heard Tuesday, June 5, 2007 before the House H&W Committee, scheduled to convene at 9:00 a.m. Other entities, such as The Louisiana State Board of Medical Examiners, and the Louisiana State Medical Society have become involved and are in opposition. The Louisiana State Board of Nursing has proposed a study resolution. LSNA continues to monitor this bill closely and will keep you updated as any changes and/or solutions are reached.

**SB 322 CRNA-Provides for authority of professional nurses to administer anesthetics**. LSNA supports this legislation. This bill is scheduled to be heard before the Senate H&W Committee, Wednesday, June 6, 2007.

If you are available to attend any of these sessions, it is a wonderful experience and once again, I urge everyone to come out and join us in being a part of the VOICE OF NURSING.

Please keep checking <http://www.legis.state.la.us/> for updates on the status of these and other bills. As we become aware of dates and times these bills will be considered in committee, we will inform you via special **LEGISLATIVE ALERTS**.

## RN License Plate Now Available

The specialty RN license plates are ready!! Look for the article in the new Pelican News due out in early June.

## Investigation of U.S. Traveler with Extensively Drug Resistant Tuberculosis (XDR TB)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is working with a number of international, state, and local partners on an investigation involving a U.S. citizen recently diagnosed with extensively drug-resistant tuberculosis (XDR TB). **More info...** <http://nursingworld.org/news/ananeews.htm#TB>

## New ANA Member Discount.. Choice Hotels International

Choice Hotels International®: **Save 15%** at over 5,000 participating Comfort Inn®, Comfort Suites®, Quality®, Sleep Inn®, Clarion®, Mainstay Suites®, Econo Lodge®, Rodeway Inn® and Suburban Extended Stay® brand hotels worldwide! Call 800.258.2847 or go to <http://www.choicehotels.com/>. Book in advance and reference the **ANA Special Rate** Identification #00803235.

## ACS Offers Grants for Doctoral Scholarships in Cancer Nursing

The American Cancer Society (ACS), the largest not-for-profit funding source for cancer research and training, is pleased to **invite applications** from **master's and doctoral students** for support of **graduate study**. They are offering scholarships ranging from \$10,000 to \$15,000. **More information here...** <http://nursingworld.org/news/ananeews.htm#CancerGrants>

## Daily Registration Rate Now Available!

*Nursing Care in Life, Death and Disaster*  
For more information and to register go here... [www.nursingworld.org/meetings/2007/quadpolicy/](http://www.nursingworld.org/meetings/2007/quadpolicy/)

## **ANA President is Participating in HHS Leadership Forum on Pandemic Influenza**

President Patton was invited to participate in a five-week pandemic blog summit and leadership forum to help Americans become more prepared for pandemic influenza; hosted by Secretary Michael Leavitt, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) in June. HHS is engaging national leaders across business, health care, faith-based and civic sectors in an effort to communicate the importance of individual preparedness for pandemic flu and the unique and important role employers, faith leaders, civic leaders and health care providers have in encouraging other people to prepare.

**More...** <http://nursingworld.org/news/ananeews.htm#pandemicBlog>

## **New DVD Will Help Train Care Workers to Provide Respiratory Care During Disasters**

The proposed rule to update the hospital inpatient prospective payment system for fiscal year 2008 incorporates CMS' commitment to value based health care services. The proposed rule continues changes begun last year to refine the current DRG payment system to improve the accuracy of Medicare payment for inpatient stays while providing additional incentives for hospitals to engage in quality improvement efforts. In addition, the rule includes provisions to ensure that Medicare no longer pays hospitals additional costs for hospital-acquired conditions including infections and an expanded list of publicly reported quality measures. **Read more here:**

[www.capitolupdate.org/Newsletter/index.asp?nlid=193&nlaid=880](http://www.capitolupdate.org/Newsletter/index.asp?nlid=193&nlaid=880)

## **Bill to Protect Nurses from Mandatory Overtime Reintroduced in the House**

The Safe Nursing and Patient Care Act, a bill which would prohibit the use of mandatory overtime as a staffing tool, has been reintroduced in the House for the 110th Congress. Reps. Pete Stark (D-CA) and Steven LaTourette (R-OH) again took the lead in sponsoring the bill, H.R. 2122, which has 4 additional co-sponsors to date. [www.capitolupdate.org/Newsletter/index.asp?nlid=193&nlaid=879](http://www.capitolupdate.org/Newsletter/index.asp?nlid=193&nlaid=879)

## **ANA Endorses Midwifery Care Access and Reimbursement Equity Act**

After careful consideration, ANA sent a letter to the House of Representatives on April 20, 2007 endorsing the Midwifery Care Access and Reimbursement Equity Act of 2007 (H.R. 864). This bill would increase Medicare reimbursement for certified nurse midwives and would, for the first time, require Medicare to recognize certified midwives. For more information please use this website: [www.capitolupdate.org/Newsletter/index.asp?nlid=193&nlaid=877](http://www.capitolupdate.org/Newsletter/index.asp?nlid=193&nlaid=877)

## **FT Nurse Faculty Member Applications Now Accepted**

School of Nursing – William Carey University  
New Orleans Campus – BSN Program

Start Date: 8.15.2007

Doctorate in Nursing Preferred; Masters in Nursing Required  
Applications, inquiries, or nominations should be sent to:

Dr. Mary W. Stewart, Dean  
498 Tuscan Avenue, WCU Box 8  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401  
1.800.962.5991 Ext. 478  
[mary.stewart@wmcarey.edu](mailto:mary.stewart@wmcarey.edu)

## **CE Opportunities in LA**

October 23-24, 2007, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, "Hansen's Disease in the United States-Diagnosis & Treatment, National Hansen's Disease Programs, Josie Major, 225-756-3761, [jmajor@hrsa.gov](mailto:jmajor@hrsa.gov), # of contact hours 13.4

Become an Expert in Patient Education, Our Lady of Lake, Melissa Stewart, 16.9CE, 225-931-3683, 10%discount for LSNA member