



ACNL in Action:

Nurse Leaders Making a Difference!

Association of California Nurse Leaders

June 2015

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Board of Registered Nursing Update

On June 4, the Board of Registered Nursing convened in San Diego with a full agenda of important issues. In addition to the committee reports on practice, education and health policy, the Sunset Review process and the BreEZe computer system were thoroughly discussed.

Changes in Board Leadership

The June meeting marked the end of Ray Mallel's term as president of the Board of Registered Nursing. Ray was appointed to the Board by Governor Jerry Brown and elected by fellow Board members as president. Regulations require that members of the Board elect officers annually. Michael Jackson, MSN, RN, CEN, MICN, will assume the role of president. Michael holds the nurse educator position and most recently served as vice president. Ray will continue to serve on the Board as vice president.

It was apparent to many observers at the June BRN meeting that this group of dedicated volunteers has grown significantly in their roles – they truly embrace the work of the Board and are committed to ensuring public safety in the practice of nursing. ACNL would like to publicly thank these professionals who have devoted countless hours to the BRN. Your commitment to public service is appreciated!

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Board of Registered Nursing – Nurse Administrator Position Open

Beverly Hayden-Pugh, an ACNL member and chief nursing officer at Central Valley Children's Hospital, completed her term as the nurse administrator on the BRN on May 31. As the appointed nurse administrator, Bev represented the voice of nurse leaders during her tenure on the Board. ACNL is grateful to Bev for her dedication and commitment to serving the nursing profession. Her voice on the Board will be missed.

With the nurse administrator position vacant, Governor Brown will be considering a replacement. If you are interested in serving on the BRN, we encourage you to apply. Applications are only accepted electronically. Visit the Governor's website (www.gov.ca.gov) and follow instructions under the *Appointments* section. Once you have submitted your application, please notify the ACNL office. ACNL is often called upon to provide input regarding candidates the Governor is considering.

At a minimum, a candidate must be:

- A US citizen
- A resident of California
- Hold an active unencumbered RN license
- An administrator of a nursing service with at least five continuous years of experience

Historically, individuals with strong community, professional association and peer support have proven to be the most successful candidates. Also consider your party affiliation when applying. Since our governor is a member of the Democratic Party, those with the same party affiliation may have an increased chance of success.

BreEZe Computer System

BreEZe, the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) information technology system, continues to exceed budget – requiring DCA to submit yet another request to the State Legislature for additional funds. The request for funding was submitted in February. Unfortunately, a 2-month delay in approval added a penalty of nearly \$2 million dollars to the project. It is expected that these costs will be paid by those boards that were part of the phase 1 and 2 implementations. The BRN was part of the phase 1 implementation, and budgeted \$4.9 million for BreEZe in fiscal year 2015/2016. The revised budget for May included an increase \$485,000 as the BRN's share of the BreEZe penalty.

The BRN is a self-funded Board, receiving funding from RN licensees, CEU providers and sanctioned fines. The increased expense of BreEZe is forcing the BRN to seek additional revenue. One solution is to raise licensing fees. As a result, we anticipate an increase in our RN licensing fees in the near future. ACNL will keep you apprised of developments regarding this issue.

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Sunset Review Process

As we reported in the last issue of *ACNL in Action*, the BRN is going through the sunset review process this year. BRN staff prepared a comprehensive report of their activities and submitted it to the Board for approval. Once the report received Board approval, it was sent to the Joint Legislative Committee responsible for the sunset process. Following the Joint Business and Professional Committee hearing in February, SB 466, a sunrise bill, was introduced by Senator Hill. Almost immediately, the sunrise date was amended out of the bill. At the May 18 Senate Appropriations Committee hearing, ACNL provided testimony opposing the bill unless amended. ACNL and several other professional nursing organizations and unions respectfully requested that Senator Hill amend the bill to include a sunrise clause. The Senator was unwilling to take amendments at that time. A formal letter was submitted to Senator Hill and other key legislators stating our opposition to the existing bill and our request to extend the BRN's sunset date. Unfortunately, SB 466 passed through the Senate without our amendment.

Members of the BRN Board discussed SB 466 during their June meeting. ACNL was the first organization to provide public testimony. We reiterated the need to maintain the BRN to protect the health and safety of consumers and promote quality registered nursing care in California. To this end, we respectfully requested the Board join ACNL in opposing SB 466 unless amended to include sunrise language. Again, professional organizations and unions joined in this request. Following the discussion, the Board passed a motion to oppose SB 466 unless language was included to extend the sunset date.

At this time, SB 466 is in the Assembly. Over the next few weeks, ACNL urges every member to send a letter or email to Senator Hill requesting that he add sunrise language to SB 466. Please share your concerns with your local Assembly member as well. We will continue to work with the BRN Board and staff, professional organizations and other stakeholders to ensure that language is added to SB 466 resulting in the continuance of the BRN.

ACNL Supports SB 323 to Allow California NPs to Practice Independently

NP Legislation Now in Assembly – Your Voice and Support Needed!

Senate Bill 323 would enable California to join 21 other states and the District of Columbia in permitting nurse practitioners to practice to the full extent of their education, experience and expertise. Co-authored by Sen. Ed Hernandez (D-West Covina) and Assembly Member Susan Eggman (D-Stockton), Senate Bill 323 (as amended) will allow NPs who hold national certification and practice in specific settings to work without physician supervision.

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SB 323 was passed by the State Senate on May 7, with a vote of 25-5 in favor of the bill. The measure now moves to the State Assembly, where it has been referred to the Committee on Business and Professions. The committee will likely take up the bill at the end of June.

Grassroots outreach will be critical to the successful passage of SB 323. ACNL strongly encourages nurse leaders to submit letters of support to Senators Hernandez and Eggman, as well as your local Assembly member.

The California Association of Nurse Practitioners (CANP) has developed extensive resources to aid in educating legislators and other stakeholders about the importance of passing SB 323. ACNL's Voice/Communication Committee has utilized resources from CANP to prepare talking points to assist you in leading important discussions regarding SB323.

[ACNL Talking Points for SB 323](#)

[Additional Resources from CANP](#)

St. Joseph's in Stockton Hosts June Foundations Course

The ACNL Board wishes to thank Rae Charos, Anitra Williams and Ginger Manss for hosting the summer *Foundation for Leadership Excellence* program at St. Joseph's Hospital in Stockton. Participants in this year's June *Foundations* course will be encouraged to participate in ACNL's Mentorship Program through Life Moxie. A special program for these emerging leaders will begin in July. If you are interested in sharing your expertise as a mentor, we invite you to visit www.acnlmentoring.org and register as a mentor. Mentors will be matched with their mentees in July. All mentors and mentees will be invited to join the orientation webinar prior to the formal start of the program. Help us continue our commitment to our future nurse leaders by participating as a mentor.

Registration is now open for the fall *Foundation for Leadership Excellence* program in Garden Grove, November 9-13, 2015.

[Learn More about the Fall Foundation for Leadership Excellence Program](#)

Creating the Future of Nursing in California **CINHC and CA AC to Host Regional Meetings in June and July**

You are invited to join the California Institute for Nursing and Health Care (CINHC), the California Action Coalition (CA AC) and other thought leaders across the state to explore the value nurses bring to the evolving health care environment and innovative ways to provide education for future roles.

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CINHC and CA AC are hosting a series of meetings throughout California on the topics of nursing education redesign and academic progression. These meetings will inform a white paper and related work funded by the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

The goal is to gather input from diverse groups - nurses, other health professionals, policy makers, public and community health representatives, business stakeholders, insurers, health systems, students and consumers. Please bring your voice and creative ideas to help redesign nursing education and identify new ways to promote the health of Californians through nursing!

[More Information and List of Regional Meeting Dates and Locations](#)

Coming in July!

ACNL Webinar on Medication Safety

One of the key objectives of ACNL's Quality, Safety and Care Experience Committee is to share innovations and best practices with members. In July, the committee will host a webinar on medication safety. More details coming soon about this webinar.

Mark Your Calendar!

ACNL's 38th Annual Conference

The Power of Us! A Force for Change

**January 31 – February 3, 2016
at the Westin Mission Hills Resort and Spa
in Rancho Mirage, California**