Resolution 2015-1

Collective Bargaining Dues

Whereas the AaNA bylaws require the annual confirmation of union dues for the Labor Program members;

Therefore be it resolved that the cap for the nurses represented by the AaNA Labor Program will not exceed $930.50 for 2016.
Resolution 2015-2
Affiliate Member Organizations of the Alaska Nurses Association

Whereas the AaNA bylaws require the annual confirmation of affiliate member organizations of the Alaska Nurses Association;

Therefore, be it resolved that the current affiliate member organizations are:

- Alaska Nurse Practitioner Association (ANPA)
- Alaska Affiliate of the American College of Nurse Midwives
- Alaska Association of Nurse Anesthetists
- Alaska Home Care & Hospice Association
- Alaska School Nurses Association
Resolution 2015-3
Member Engagement

WHEREAS, we are proud members of the Alaska Nurses Association, and we understand that collective action gives us the power to ensure justice, fairness and opportunity for all; and

WHEREAS, our Association was founded 63 years ago to establish a voice for nurse as workers so they could have a voice in the conditions of their workplace, advocate for fair pay and stand up for greater autonomy as professionals and advocates for their patients; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska Nurses Association affiliated with the American Federation of Teachers in 2015 to enhance our position and bargaining capabilities by standing together with 98% of the nurses in the PeaceHealth System and 42% of the nurses in the Providence Health System; and

WHEREAS, there are over 3.1 million nurses in the US and over 8,000 registered nurses in the state of Alaska; and

WHEREAS, nurses continue to be the most trusted group of professional and communities rely on nurses to advocate for their wellbeing in this complex changing medical marketplace; and

WHEREAS, we must engage in a collective conversation about the challenges we face, the aspirations we have and the strategies we must implement. We must create the collective will and shared avenues for our members, along with community partners, to fight those obstacles and reach those aspirations:

RESOLVED, that our union will double the number of member activists to 10 percent, double the number of members who engage in any union and/or community involvement activities, and—reach out and speak to 100% of our members. And while less than 20 percent of those we represent are agency fee payers, we will reach all of them, with the goal of their choosing to have their voices heard as Association union members; and

RESOLVED, that we will be accountable to each other—activists and leaders on the local, state and national levels—to achieve these goals; and The American Federation of Teachers-Nurses and Healthcare division is a union of professionals that champions fairness; democracy; economic opportunity; high-quality healthcare and public services for our patients, their families and our communities. We are committed to advancing these principles through community engagement, organizing, collective bargaining and political activism, and especially through the work our members do.

RESOLVED, that the AaNA Labor Council officers and the organizing committee, in consultation with our local leaders, will put forward an implementation plan that honors and allows for the
diversity of each community. Such a plan will be considered by the Labor Council in our March meeting and, building from this, individual local unions shall develop and implement their plans; and

RESOLVED, that the state and national union will support this recommittment, to our members, to our families, to our communities and to our ideals in every way possible; and

RESOLVED, that through this journey of engaging with our members and potential members across the state, we will honor and build on the proud history of our Association.

RESOURCES

Resolution 2015-4
Workplace Health and Safety

Whereas, the Mission and Goals of the Alaska Nurses Association (AaNA) is to maintain and strengthen nursing's role in client advocacy for consumer safety and quality health care; and

Whereas, Many of the quality and safety initiatives identified by the National Quality Forum (NQF), the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI), the Joint Commission's National Patient Safety Goals, and the CMS Never Events are directly related to nursing care activities; and

Whereas, Federal and State regulations and the Joint Commission accreditation program require healthcare institutions to establish facility-based Safety Committees to oversee the safe delivery and quality of patient care; and

Whereas, Registered Nurses, because of their expert knowledge, technical skills and patient care experience have an important role and much to contribute as active members of these facility-based Safety Committees (including, but not limited to facility-based patient safety committees, safe-patient handling committees and safe staffing committees); and

Whereas, New evidence-based research is emerging almost daily that supports the important role that nursing care contributes to the safety and quality of patient outcomes;

Therefore, be it resolved, that the Alaska Nurses Association shall actively encourage, promote, and support AaNA members to actively seek and maintain positions on their workplace safety committees; and

Be it further resolved, that AaNA staff and leaders work in collaboration with Local Unit leadership and other AaNA members to identify and develop a roster of registered nurses participating in Health and Safety committees at their place of work; and

Be it further resolved, that the AaNA Health and Safety Committee and staff develop strategies to assist AaNA members who serve on these Safety Committees and provide them with additional education, research and networking opportunities and other skills to support their safety committee role; and

Be it further resolved, that AaNA members serving on these Committees be encouraged and supported in taking active leadership roles in improving policies and procedures such as infection control programs, safe patient handling, fatigue reduction, safe staffing, hospital design, and disaster and emergency preparedness.
Resolution 2015-5
Medicaid Expansion and Redesign

Whereas Governor Bill Walker on July 16, 2015 announced the acceptance and expansion of Medicaid for the State of Alaska and with the judicial ruling that Medicaid participants will begin to sign up on September 1, 2015; and

Whereas the Alaska Nurses Association is a stakeholder in the Medicaid Redesign Initiative; and

Whereas Medicaid expansion will mean 42,000 additional Alaskans will have healthcare coverage allowing for a stronger and healthier Alaska; and

Whereas as Medicaid expansion will bring 4,000 new jobs to our state supporting our ailing economy and meet the needs of the newly insured; and

Whereas Medicaid expansion will diminish the cost of uncompensated care by $100 million and allow our community hospitals and outpatient facilities to flourish;

Therefore be it resolved that the Alaska Nurses Association will continue to support current State policy that allows for expansion of Medicaid and ongoing work and active participation in the Medicaid Redesign Initiative; and

Therefore be it further resolved that over the next year, AaNA will continue to keep our nursing community informed of the redesign initiatives through regular communication to nurses through The Alaska Nurse, and at conferences, membership meetings, and community events.
Resolution 2015-6
Continuing Education Program Priorities

Be it resolved that the following are priorities for the Alaska Nurses Association’s Continuing Education Program for October 2015 to October 2016:

Maintaining continuing education activities for nurses throughout the state of Alaska through in-person education and online webinar opportunities; and

Continuing to joint-provide continuing education activities with community partners; and

Establishing as a focus for 2016 “Interpersonal Violence Awareness and Prevention” continuing education activities for nurses in Alaska; and

Developing a “Roles in Nursing” education series for nurses and students to explore nursing career tracks and practice settings; and

Ensuring the sustainability and progress of the Alaska Nurses Association’s Continuing Education Program.
Resolution 2015-7
Interpersonal Violence Awareness and Education

WHEREAS, interpersonal violence affects hundreds of thousands of Alaskans across the lifespan through issues such as child maltreatment (including neglect and physical and sexual abuse), sexual assault, domestic violence, and elder abuse; and

WHEREAS, 37 percent, or nearly 2 out of 5, of adult women in Alaska have experienced sexual violence in their lifetime, which is unfortunately nearly twice the national average of 1 out of 5 women; and

WHEREAS, 59 percent of adult women in Alaska have experienced intimate partner violence, sexual assault, or both in their lifetime, and nearly 12 percent have experienced physical violence and/or sexual violence within the past year; and

WHEREAS, nearly 2 out of 3 adult Alaskans have been negatively affected by one or more adverse childhood experiences, which include emotional abuse, substance abuse in the childhood home, sexual assault, physical abuse, neglect, and other childhood trauma; and as these adverse childhood experiences have statistically significant connections to negative health affects including heavy substance abuse, asthma, poor general health, chronic disease, and behavioral and mental health issues; and

WHEREAS, Alaska Department of Health and Social Services Office of Children’s Services reports 10,416 alleged victims of child maltreatment and 2,298 substantiated victims child maltreatment in the period of January through August 2015 in the State of Alaska; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Alaska Nurses Association Continuing Education Program will promote increased awareness regarding interpersonal violence issues in Alaska and dedicate continuing education activities to support the necessity for nurses across all clinical settings to respond to the interpersonal violence epidemic in Alaska.
Resolution 2015-8
Editorial Committee Priorities

Be it resolved that the following are priorities for the Alaska Nurses Association’s Editorial Committee for October 2015 to October 2016:

Ensuring that the Alaska Nurses Association’s bimonthly publication, *The Alaska Nurse*, continue to be freely printed and distributed via mail to all nurses in Alaska; and

Partnering with the Alaska Nurses Association’s Continuing Education Program to explore providing written continuing education opportunities in *The Alaska Nurse* as well as publicizing continuing education events and webinars; and

Continuing to encourage participation on the Alaska Nurses Association Editorial Committee and to solicit articles for *The Alaska Nurse* from nurse authors with a variety of experiences and practice settings from around the state.
2015 – 9 Advocacy Priorities Resolution

Be it resolved that the following are priorities for the Alaska Nurses Association’s education and advocacy activities for October 2015 to October 2016.

Maintaining the rights of Alaska’s workers to engage in collective bargaining.

Maintaining a strong and independent Board of Nursing funded through licensing fees.

Working to ensure that all Alaska nurses have adequate access to lift assist devices and are educated in their proper use.

Working with Alaska’s Advanced Practice Nurse organizations to get the APRN consensus model, in the form of SB 53, adopted into statute and regulations.

Working to ensure that all Alaskans have access to affordable health insurance, by supporting the expansion of Medicaid and advocating for more access to Denali Kid Care by reducing financial eligibility criteria.

Expanding Mental Health first aid educational opportunities for Alaskans.

Supporting and advocating mental health care through legislation, education, and policy.

Working to maintain Alaska’s prescription drug monitoring program without placing an undue financial burden on Alaska’s nurses.

Working to ensure that all of Alaska’s students have daily access to a professionally prepared school nurse.

Working to protect Alaskans from harmful chemicals.

Working to maintain a strong public health system in Alaska.

Promoting a safe and healthy workplace for all Alaskan nurses and healthcare workers through legislation, education, and policies.

Advocating for Alaska nurses by writing white paper(s) that support the vision of the Alaska Nurses Association in 2016.

Educating Alaskan nurses by editing and publishing The Alaska Nurse magazine.
2015 Resolution 10 – Grievance training

WHEREAS, the AaNA has recently affiliated with AFT and their extensive resources; and

WHEREAS, all three bargaining units, Ketchikan Nurses, RNs United (CPGH) and Providence Registered Nurses (PRN), have identified a current or projected deficit in trained, competent grievance officers,

BE IT RESOLVED that, all three units will receive extensive in town training for their members and officers. AFT will be contacted and petitioned to provide such, before May 2016.
WHEREAS, AaNA has supported resolutions and legislation promoting a healthy environment (I.E. TOSCA reform, HB 151, etc.;)

BE IT RESOLVED past resolutions are reaffirmed and AaNA will continue to support those actions which endorse the precautionary principle.