



MEMORANDUM OF SUPPORT

Clinical Nursing Simulation

A.3076A(Lupardo)/S.447C (Stavisky)

April 19, 2023

The Community Health Care Association of New York State (CHCANYS) strongly supports A.3076A(Lupardo)/S.447C (Stavisky) which would alleviate New York's nurse workforce shortage by expanding access to hands-on clinical education.

CHCANYS is the statewide association of New York's 70+ federally qualified health centers (FQHCs), also known as community health centers (CHCs). Community health centers operate in low-income and medically underserved communities, providing a full range of primary and preventive health care and enabling services for more than 2.3 million patients at over 800 sites, regardless of insurance, immigration status, or ability to pay. Among our patients, 89% are low income, 68% are Black, Hispanic/Latinx, and other people of color, 13% are uninsured, and 59% are enrolled in Medicaid or Child Health Plus.

Community health centers have long experienced workforce shortages. The pandemic has exacerbated what is now an unprecedented amount of workforce attrition affecting operations and patient care. In the midst of this unprecedented workforce shortage, CHCs struggle to compete with other health care organizations (i.e., for-profit healthcare organizations and travel nursing opportunities) for the same providers, with nurses being among some of the hardest providers to recruit and retain.

Currently, New York is projected to face a nurse workforce shortage of more than 39,000 by 2030.¹ Although New York is home to many excellent nursing programs, there are not enough clinical placements to meet demand. Many nursing programs are in the terrible position of having to turn away qualified applicants because of the shortage of clinical training placements.

The solution to the shortage of clinical training placements is to permit nursing programs to utilize simulation-based clinical education for one-third of clinical hours, providing students with lifelike clinical environments while allowing for more flexible delivery of clinical experience in nursing programs. Furthermore, according to the National Council of State Boards of Nursing, substitution of clinical simulation for up to 50% of traditional clinical experiences was an effective model that ensured nursing students were fully prepared to enter the workforce.²

CHCANYS urges the Governor to swiftly sign A.3076A(Lupardo)/S.447C (Stavisky) into law to mitigate the current nurse workforce shortage by enabling nursing programs to expand and effectively prepare more nursing students to enter the workforce.

For more information or any questions, please reach out to Marie Mongeon, Vice President of Policy, at mmongeon@chcanys.org.

¹ https://health.ny.gov/press/reports/docs/2020-08_staffing_report.pdf

² https://www.ncsbn.org/public-files/JNR_Simulation_Supplement.pdf