

# MAKING AN IMPACT: NURSING ADVOCACY

Rachel Culpepper DNP, RN, CENP

IU Health West Hospital, Nursing Director

AONL Board –Region 5

IONL Board –Appointed

CIONL Board –Past President

# OBJECTIVES

1. Articulate the importance and impact of advocacy.
2. Understand the different types of involvement in advocacy.
3. Describe the 2024 AONL congressional priorities.

# MY PERSONAL JOURNEY AS AN ADVOCATE





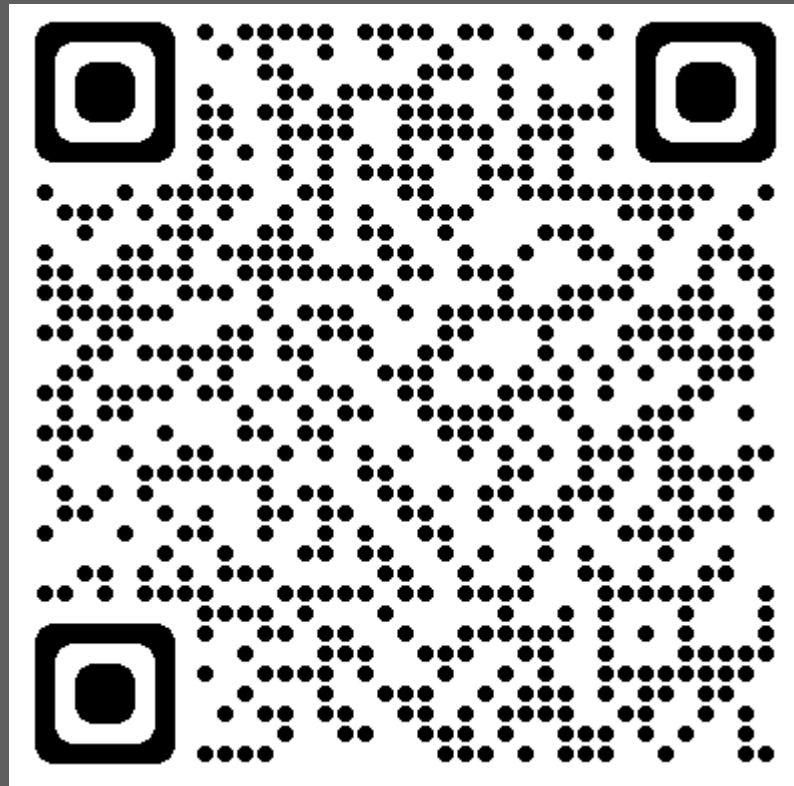
## DO I HAVE TOO?

WE (nurses) are uniquely qualified to discuss everyday issues impacting patients, communities and systems.

WE are subject matter experts

WE have more ability to impact change than they realize!

# WHO REPRESENTS ME?



# A KEY TO SUCCESSFUL ADVOCACY: BUILDING RAPPORT



GENERAL AWARENESS  
OF THEIR ACTIVITY



INDIVIDUAL,  
PERSONALIZED EMAILS



SOCIAL MEDIA &  
ONLINE PRESENCE



HOMETOWN -  
DISTRICT OFFICE VISITS  
& LOCAL EVENTS



WASHINGTON D.C. -  
CAPITOL HILL VISITS

# SUBSCRIBING TO EMAIL NEWSLETTERS

[External] Biden Administration Must Answer on Release of Iranian Funds



Senator Todd Young <contact@young.senate.gov>

To  Culpepper, Rachel A



Reply



Reply All



Forward



Thu 4/11/2024 5:35 P



## Biden Administration Must Answer on Release of Iranian Funds

The terrorist attacks in Israel last October were a warning about how dangerous the world is becoming. If America recedes, bad actors will feel empowered to fill the vacuum.

Iran facilitates the actions of Hamas, as well as other groups intent on destroying Israel. The United States should be restricting Iran's access to currency abroad. Instead, the


# SENDING PERSONALIZED EMAILS

What to include in the e-mail:

- Introduce yourself as their constituent
- Credentials and Experience
- The organization you are representing, if applicable
- The ask (i.e. supporting specific legislation/issue)
- Any story or facts that you may have as a clinician to support your ask
- Contact information
- Thank them!



# LEVERAGING SOCIAL MEDIA

 **Rachel Culpepper is with Jenn Funk and 2 others in Washington D.C.** ...  
Mar 15 · 🌐

I had the opportunity to be on the [#AONLAdvocacy](#) panel to discuss our priorities with 130 members! We'll be going to Capital Hill tomorrow to talk with our policymakers about..

1. Increasing the Health Care Workforce and Strengthen Capacity 💪
2. Protect Health Care Workers from Workplace Violence 🚫
3. Addressing Nurse Faculty and Clinical Site Shortages 🧑‍⚕️ 🧑‍🎓 🧑‍🔧

[#nurseleaders](#)

[Senator Todd Young](#) [Senator Mike Braun](#) [Greg Pence](#) [Larry Bucshon](#) [Andre Carson](#), I am looking forward to talking with your DC office!


 **Rachel Culpepper is with Mary Browning and Sherri Lee Brummett.** ...  
Sep 14, 2022 · 🌐

Thank you [Senator Todd Young](#) for meeting with us today! We really appreciate your time and your leadership!


[#HB7961](#) [#title8funding](#) [#S4352](#)

[#AONLAdvocacy](#)  
[Central Indiana Organization For Nursing Leadership](#)  
[Indiana Organization for Nursing Leadership](#)  
[American Organization for Nursing Leadership](#)



 **Rachel Culpepper** ...  
Aug 11, 2022 · 🌐

[Senator Mike Braun](#) and [Senator Todd Young](#) please consider supporting the [SAVE Act \(HB 7961\)](#)! Violence against healthcare workers is under reported and comes with little consequences.  
[#AONLAdvocacy](#)



thehill.com  
**Congress: Health care staff deserve stronger protections against workpla...**

👍❤️ 22      1 comment 3 shares

👍 Like      💬 Comment      ➦ Share

# ATTENDING DISTRICT OFFICE EVENTS

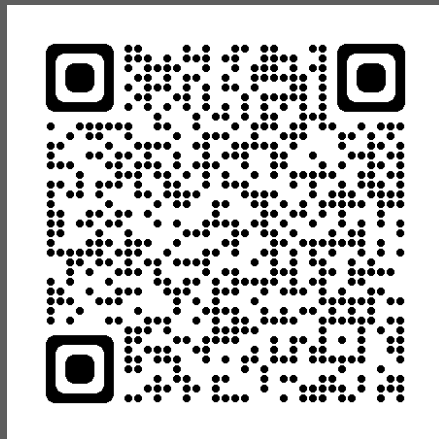




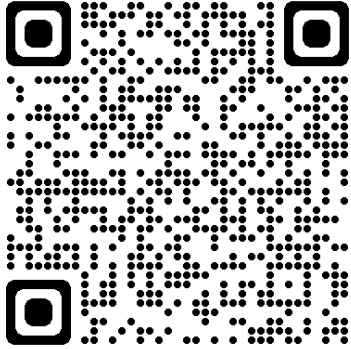
# COMMITTING TO CAPITOL HILL VISITS

1. Visit AONL's Advocacy Action Center  
(QR code below)
2. Attend Advocacy Day:

June 3-4, 2024, in Washington, DC



# NURSE LEADERS IN ADVOCACY (NLIA)



- **Eligibility:**
  - Be an AONL member in good standing.
  - Complete the AONL Advocacy Academy online and in-person educational program.
  - Reside within a congressional district/state you represent as a key contact
  - Agree to conduct at least one interaction with the assigned congressional office quarterly
- **Responsibilities include but are not limited to:**
  - Attend AONL advocacy days and attend AONL-sponsored in-district engagement activities
  - Engage in other advocacy-related activities each month, such as calling or sending personal messages to staff, reaching out to local media, interacting with members of Congress via social networks and recruiting and mentoring new advocates for NLIA
  - Participate in advocacy training sessions to prepare you to be an effective advocate and communicate AONL's public policy priorities and positions.

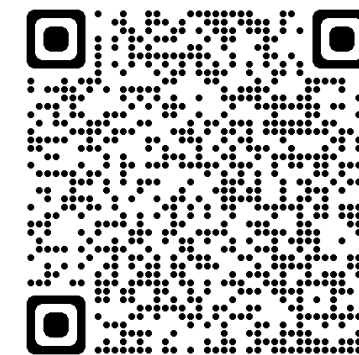
# AONL 2024 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

## Increase the Health Care Workforce and Strengthen Capacity

**Healthcare Workforce Resilience Act (S. 3211/H.R. 6205)** expedites visas for foreign-trained nurses and physicians in medically underserved areas.

**Educating Future Nurses Act (S. 1586/H.R.3623)** creates a national graduate nurse education program and establish a permanent funding stream in Medicare for hospitals to partner with schools of nursing, community-based care settings and other hospitals to increase clinical education for advanced practice registered nursing students.

**National Nursing Workforce Center Act (S.1150/H.R. 2411)** establishes a grant program to support public-private partnerships of entities seeking to stabilize, support, analyze, develop and invest in growing the nursing workforce. Existing nursing workforce centers will be able to expand their data collection and solution-based problem solving for their individual states.



# AONL 2024 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

## Protect and Support Health Care Workers

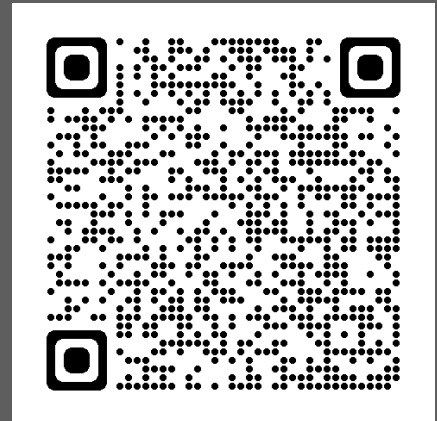
### **Safety From Violence for Healthcare Employees (SAVE) Act (S. 2768/H.R. 2584)**

enacts federal protection for health care workers against violence and intimidation.

Provide hospital grant funding for violence prevention training programs, equipment and technology to create a safer environment.

### **Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Reauthorization Act (S.3679/H.R. 7153)**

reauthorizes through 2029 the Dr. Lorna Breen Health Care Provider Protection Act, which provides grants to help health care organizations offer behavioral health services for front-line health care workers.

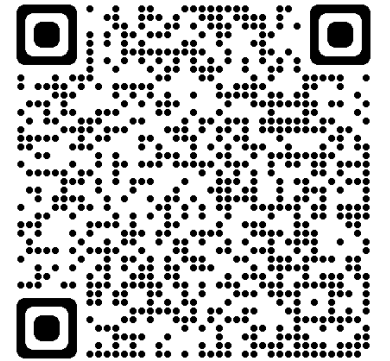


# AONL 2024 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

## Address Nurse Faculty and Clinical Site Shortages

**Future Advancement of Academic Nursing (FAAN) Act (S. 3770/H.R.7266)** invests in nursing schools to ensure nursing education pathways, support nursing schools, students, faculty and education infrastructure by providing resources to hire and retain a diverse faculty, as well as enroll and retain nursing students. Modernizes nursing curriculum, technology and simulation labs.

**Nurse Faculty Shortage Reduction Act (S. 2815/ H.R. 7002)** establishes a pilot program to increase wages for nurse educators and support efforts to recruit and retain faculty. It also would prioritize programs serving vulnerable populations, as well as programs recruiting and retaining faculty from underrepresented backgrounds.



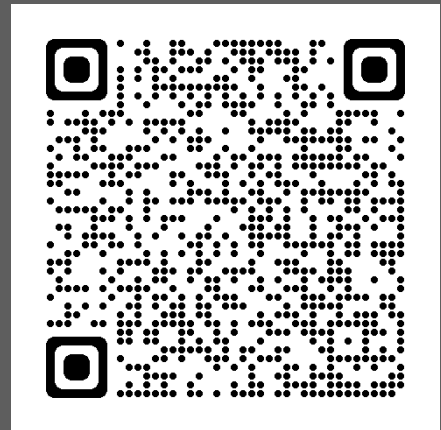
# AONL 2024 ADVOCACY PRIORITIES

## Address Nurse Faculty and Clinical Site Shortages

### **Support Faculty and Expand Access to Nursing School Act (H.R. 3263)**

provides grant funding to nursing schools to expand their capacity to train nurses by hiring more faculty and clinical preceptors. The legislation would prioritize funding for nursing schools in cities and states experiencing the most severe faculty and preceptor shortages.

**PRECEPT Nurses Act (S. 1627)** provides a \$2,000 tax credit for nurses to serve as clinical preceptors to students and recent hires.







# QUESTIONS?

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