



TN Nurse,

We can't thank you enough for your support of the proposed updates to the Nurse Practice Act to give Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) autonomy over their practice and patient care. **Your voice made a difference** and it is because of your support that our needs and the needs of Tennessee patients have been recognized.

From the beginning, we have experienced constant opposition from the Tennessee Medical Association (TMA), which has remained adamant against removing physician oversight of APRNs and refused to discuss a statutory path forward that benefits all Tennesseans. Their only offer was a change in rules with the caveat that we must agree to a 10-year moratorium on scope of practice changes. And that's unacceptable and not good faith negotiation.

While we presented empirical data that demonstrates the positive effect that removing mandated physician oversight for APRNs would have on patient outcomes, the opposition used the upcoming election to convince some legislators to not support the bill.

So while updates to the Nurse Practice Act will not occur this year, you have helped us create the conditions for future success. We always knew this could be a multi-year fight, and we are dug in and will continue to fight– this must be done for the good of Tennesseans. We are prepared to reintroduce a bill that achieves our goal of removing physician mandated oversight in the 2021-2022 legislative session, should the TMA-led opposition again not be willing to consider a political compromise.

We have learned a great deal about the legislators that were supportive of our legislation and those who were not. As we prepare for the upcoming election cycle, it will be crucial to have your help in supporting legislators who advocate for the nursing profession and expanded access to care for Tennesseans.

We have made significant progress from where we were prior to the three-year moratorium, and we are so proud of and grateful to the TNA and Coalition members who have rallied behind this cause. This does not end here.

We will be continuing to update you over the course of the summer and upcoming election cycle. Please consider making a donation to the TN Nurses PAC to help support candidates who support nurses and our patients: <https://www.tnaonline.org/donate-to-tnpac/>. If you would like to become more involved in political activity, please contact [advocacy@tnaonline.org](mailto:advocacy@tnaonline.org).

Thank you for your time and unending support.

Sincerely,  
Tina Gerardi, MS, RN, CAE  
Executive Director