

RICSNTA Legislative Update

February 25, 2015

Dear RICSNTA members,

The RI legislature has been busy with introducing bills, holding hearings, and reviewing testimony. RICSNTA has been addressing several bills of particular interest to school nursing and our actions are summarized as follows:

1. **Bill H 5047** Naloxone (Narcan) in schools for administration by school personnel
Testimony was provided to the Health, Education, and Welfare Committee on Feb. 4, 2015 and included the following comments:

- RICSNTA supports this bill that promotes student safety but has some concerns, including...
 - training be provided to nurses
 - training be provided by RI Department of Health or its designee
 - Narcan would be available in middle and high schools (rather than grades 6 through 12)

The bill has been held for further study. No further hearings have been scheduled.

2. **Bill S 0154** Companion Senate bill, Narcan in schools for administration by school personnel
No hearing scheduled yet. Testimony to the Senate Education Committee will be the same as what was provided to the House committee for the house bill.

3. **Bill H 5187** Prohibits sale of consumer fireworks to the general public.
Testimony was provided to the House Judiciary Committee on Feb 24th in support of this bill that would prohibit the sale of consumer fireworks..... This is a matter of promoting student and community safety and accident prevention. The bill has been held for further study.

4. **Bill S 0084** Epi-Pens for unidentified students
RICSNTA will provide testimony that it opposes this bill because non-medical people who volunteer for training will be required to assess children and determine that the symptoms are consistent with allergic reaction/anaphylaxis. This is unsafe for students. The bill has been referred to Senate Education and has not been scheduled for hearing.

5. **Bill H 5481** Repeals nurse licensure compact.
RICSNTA will provide testimony that it opposes this bill that would require nurses to obtain licensure in the state where they practice. The bill has been referred to the House Corporations Committee but has not been scheduled for hearing.

All bills can be read in their entirety, including actions taken, by visiting the RI General Assembly website at www.rilin.state.ri.us.

Any legislative concerns or issues can be addressed to RICSNTA executive board or legislative committee. Contact information is on the RICSNTA website.

Respectfully submitted,
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RICSNTA Advocacy(Legislative) Chair