

FNA Legislative Update
by Anna Small, Legislative Counsel
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Clinical Nurse Specialist Bill has passed both Senate and House and will be presented to the Governor

SB 736/ HB 285 by Senator Saunders and Representative Kiar

This bill specifies a second criteria for licensure as a CNS. An applicant must have a valid RN license, a masters degree in a clinical specialty and either, 1) board certification, or 2) 1000 hours of clinical experience within his or her specialty, which is in an area in which there is no board certification available. This bill has passed in the Senate and was read for a second time on Wednesday of last week. The day of the bill's third reading in the House was Friday when partisan politics intervened and the bill was referred back to the Rules Committee. Apparently, the House Democrats and Republicans have reached some type of compromise. Our bill was withdrawn from the Rules Committee today and placed back onto the calendar. It was taken up and passed on the House Floor just moments ago. The Bill will next be presented to the Governor for his signature.

FNA owes thanks to Senator Burt Saunders and Representative Martin David Kiar, to their Aides, Randi and Scott, and to all the FNA members who worked with us to lobby this bill. A job well done!