

I wanted to share with you a summary of 2009 Legislation for NPs in Florida.

I cut and pasted this from the  
*Advance Nurse Practitioners E-Newsletter.*

**Florida**

2009 was a challenge for Florida NPs' goals because of fiscal cuts in the state's budget. That, coupled with the focus on legislative issues such as the drug diversion bill, left little support for efforts toward obtaining prescriptive authority for NPs. Limited legislative successes included the clinical lab "clean up bill" (Senate Bill 0408) which requires labs to accept orders from Nurse Practitioners. The disappointments of the legislative session, however, were not enough to reduce the excitement over the video on advanced practice nursing needs for Florida (Available on both of the links below, YouTube and Advance for Nurse Practitioners)

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CJziYxYXzik&feature=player\\_embedded](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CJziYxYXzik&feature=player_embedded)

<http://nurse-practitioners.advanceweb.com/Article/Florida-NPs-Lobby-Legislators.aspx>

The video highlights the real healthcare access challenges of Florida's patients and the ability for advanced practice nursing to respond to the call of the new administration. In addition, the changes in healthcare reform have begun to prompt insurers such as Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Florida to begin discussions of identifying NPs as primary providers. Though early in discussions, the commitment from both sides appears to hold promise. The number one goal for 2010 is to reintroduce the request for controlled substance prescribing authority. A variety of considerations on ways this bill may be palatable to legislators is being discussed. In addition, revisiting the death certificate bill in which NPs would be accepted as valid signatures is also being considered.

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