

Date: March 8, 2024



Oregon Center for
NURSING

FRIDAY HUDDLE

A gathering of Oregon nursing workforce leaders to offer timely updates and share insights from peers and stakeholders.

Nursing Workforce

Wrapping up the Legislative Short Session: This year's legislative short session [wrapped up Thursday night](#). An [updated version of the OCN Legislative Tracker](#) summarizing the status of numerous healthcare-focused bills is available on our website. While many bills did not pass, House Bill 4136 successfully passed the Oregon House and Senate. This legislature will update language for nurse licensing and provide financial support for healthcare access in Lane County.

Nurse License Compact (NLC) Progress: Huddlers also discussed [Oregon's journey to the NLC](#). While there was no active discussion of NLC involvement in this short session, we suspect the conversation will be back for next year. According to OSBN, a bill that proposed NLC involvement was lost by one vote in 2023. Huddlers agreed that NLC involvement could help reduce licensing costs and increase access to care while considering changes and challenges that might arise if Oregon becomes a compact state. We also talked about progress toward the proposed [APRN license compact](#), which requires the involvement of at least seven takes to be fully enacted.

Updates from the Oregon State Board of Nursing: OSBN continues its work on numerous divisions of the Nurse Practice Act. The RAC working on Division 47, which addresses delegation in community-based settings, will reconvene next week. Committees are also hard at work on Division 31, which addresses licensing for LPNs and RNs, and Divisions 61 to 63, which cover CNA training programs and the proposed consolidation of CNA-1 and CNA-2. The latter is expected to be presented to the Board and enacted this summer. Information about upcoming OSBN meetings and RAC committee calls is [available on the OSBN website](#). You can also read the latest edition of the OSBN Sentinel magazine, [currently available online](#).

Updated COVID Guidelines: The CDC provided [updated guidelines regarding quarantine protocol](#) for the general public after a positive COVID-19 diagnosis, reducing the self-isolation time to 24 hours. These updated guidelines do not currently apply to healthcare workers. Meanwhile, the Oregon Health Authority [maintains its guidelines for nurses and other healthcare professionals](#) following a positive COVID-19 test. OHA is expected to keep its current protocol.

New OCN Podcast: Tune in for the first episode of [The State of Wellness, a new podcast from the Oregon Center of Nursing](#) that highlights news and stories from Oregon's nursing community. New episodes are released every other week. We're also accepting topics for future episodes. Email callie.gisler@oregoncenterfornursing.org with ideas!

Nurses4All Survey This Month: Led by the Center for Health Outcomes & Policy Research (CHOPR) at the University of Pennsylvania, [Nurses4All is a survey that explores nurse working conditions](#). All Oregon registered nurses will receive the survey in their email and are eligible for CE credit upon completion.

Next Friday Huddle:

Friday, March 8, at 8:00 a.m.

[Register Here!](#)

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