



## Resolution Nursing and the Opiate Epidemic

In recognition of the scale of the opioid epidemic on the national and state level, and on the occasion of the New Jersey State Nurses Association Annual Meeting and Convention, attendees stand in support with the nurses and other health care professionals who respond and provide care.

### **DECLARATION**

- WHEREAS, in 2016 there 1409 opioid related deaths in New Jersey accounting for a rate of 161/100,000 and
- WHEREAS, heroin related deaths in New Jersey rose from 97 in 2010 to 850 in 2016, and
- WHEREAS, in the period from 1999 to 2016 there were 630,000 drug related overdose deaths in the United States and that the rate of US deaths was 5 times higher in 2016 than in 1999, and
- WHEREAS, there have been 3 waves of opioid increases: prescription opioids followed by a rise in heroin and lastly a rise in fentanyl use, and
- WHEREAS, of grave concern to NJSNA are all human lives and evidenced-based care for addictions, and
- WHEREAS, Federal legislation (HR6) will include Clinical Nurse Specialists (CNS) as providers authorized to prescribe medication assisted treatment (MAT) for opioid use disorder through October 1, 2023. The agreement also permanently authorizes Nurse Practitioners to prescribe Medication Assisted Therapy (MAT), and
- Whereas this legislation proposes the elimination of the sunset date affecting NP and PA ability to prescribe MAT, and
- Whereas, this legislation Authorizing Clinical Nurse Specialists, Clinical Nurse Midwives, and Certified Registered Nurse Anesthetists to prescribe MAT through Oct. 1, 2023 makes them "qualified providers" of MAT through that date as long as allowed by their state scope of practice

THEREFORE, the Members of the 2018 NJSNA Meeting declares,

- THAT, NJSNA support the full inclusion of Advanced Practice Nurses as provided of MAT.
- THAT, NJSNA continue to monitor and support state legislation that incorporates the use of MAT in the APN scope of practice in New Jersey
- THAT NJSNA support efforts and programs to prevent and treat opioid and other addictions within New Jersey
- THAT, NJSNA continue to support and operationalize the Recovery Assistance and Monitoring Program (RAMP) in its work with impaired nurses and in collaboration with the State of New Jersey Board of Nursing.

Respectfully submitted,

Benjamin Evans, DD, DNP, RN, APN

President, NJSNA

September 26, 2018

Fiscal Impact: No additional fiscal impact to the association.

Reference:

<https://www.cdc.gov/drugoverdose/epidemic/index.html>

<https://www.drugabuse.gov/drugs-abuse/opioids/opioid-summaries-by-state/new-jersey-opioid-summary>

Subject: APRNs Impacted by Opioid Legislation Agreement Announced by Committee Leaders

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