California School Nurses Organization

Position Statement

PUBLIC POLICY, LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY PARTICIPATION

STATEMENT

The California School Nurses Organization strongly endorses any opportunities and requests for credentialed school nurses to be active in public policy issues. It is imperative that credentialed school nurses be involved in the policy arena to impact the health and education of students and the practice of professional school nursing.

Furthermore, credentialed school nurses must take timely and appropriate action regarding any public policy, legislative or regulatory activity related to school health issues and the school nurse role and scope of practice in the school setting. This includes staying current on health issues, appropriate correspondence, and addressing individuals, groups and organizations regarding issues, key policies and regulatory areas that impact school nursing practice and the health and safety of school children. CSNO supports the employment of a legislative advocate to facilitate these actions.

RATIONALE

Credentialed school nurses have the background and expertise to enhance student academic success and promote the practice of professional school nursing. Credentialed school nurses advocate for the removal of health-related barriers to educational success through action in the public policy, legislative and regulatory processes. Failure to do so may result in detrimental changes to school health policy and the school nursing role. This may decrease overall accessibility of credentialed school nurses to students and students to credentialed school nurses. Credentialed school nurses and the California School Nurses Organization (CSNO) need to take active roles in educating local, state and federal legislators and policy makers about the improved academic success, increased graduation rates and positive health outcomes that result from having credentialed school nurses in our schools.

Reference:

