

2020 NANN Advocacy Agenda

The National Association of Neonatal Nurses (NANN) is dedicated to advocating at the local, state, and federal level for optimized care and positive health outcomes for neonates and their families. As the leader in neonatal nursing, NANN seeks to support and enhance legislation that improves the lives of the most vulnerable population.

Disparities in the NICU

There are numerous studies demonstrating health disparities in pre-term NICU infants. Three contributors to health disparities have been described: increased risk for pre-term birth, lower quality of care, and socioeconomic disadvantages. NICU mothers who experience poor social determinants of health have an increased risk of losing a child before his or her first birthday. NANN strongly believes that all infants, regardless of race, parental economic or educational status, or geographic area should receive equal, quality healthcare.

Related legislation:

[H.R. 1897 – MOMMA’s Act](#)

[S. 116 – MOMS Act](#)

[S. 2373 – Rural Maternal and Obstetric Modernization Services Act](#)

Paid Family and Medical Leave

Paid family leave allows working people to continue to earn all or a portion of their income while they take time away from work to meet family caregiving or personal health needs. This can include time to address a medical condition or a significant health event such as pregnancy. Family leave allows parents to take time off to care for their biologic or adopted infant. Paid leave is a critical tool to invest in the mother and infant needs, supporting healthier pregnancies, better birth outcomes, more successful breastfeeding, and both physical and mental health in the post-partum period.

Related legislation:

[H.R. 4964 – Paid Family Leave Pilot Extension Act](#)

[H.R. 1185 – FAMILY Act](#)

Breast Milk and Nutrition

The breastfeeding experience plays an important role in the healthy neurological development of the infant as well as supporting the establishment of the critical relationship between the infant and mother as a dyad. NANN supports the need for access and education to information on breastfeeding, thereby encouraging breastfeeding as the best possible experience for the nutritional and emotional health of infants.



Related legislation:

[H.R. 5592 – PUMP for Nursing Mothers Act \(S. 3170 Companion Bill\)](#)

[S. 2381 – Traveling Parents Screening Consistency Act of 2019](#)

Nursing Workforce Development

The continued development of the nursing workforce is critical to the health of our country. Through research, education, expansion of access to healthcare facilities and providers, and funding directly connected to meeting the nursing profession’s pressing needs, NANN advocates for the entire nursing community.

Related legislation:

[H.R. 728 - Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2019 \(Passed House\)](#)

[S. 1399 – Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2019](#)

[S. 1045 – Nursing Where It’s Needed Act](#)

[H.R. 900 – ACO Assignment Improvement Act of 2019](#)

