

TOPIC: IN SUPPORT OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND INCREASED FUNDING FOR RESEARCH ON LATERAL VIOLENCE IN NURSING

SUBMITTED BY: University of Illinois at Chicago Student Nurses Association

WHEREAS, in 2001 the resolution to support the prevention of workplace violence in health care settings through increased education and awareness was adopted by the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA) House of Delegates; and

WHEREAS, in 2006 the NSNA House of Delegates reaffirmed their position on workplace violence by adopting the resolution to support professional workplace culture and decreasing horizontal violence; and

WHEREAS, lateral violence, also known as horizontal violence or bullying remains a significant problem in nursing despite some measures to address it including establishing a zero-tolerance policy and using cognitive rehearsal; and

WHEREAS, lateral violence and bullying affects the recruitment of nurses, causes physical and psychological stress and contributes to nurses leaving their positions or the nursing profession as a whole; and

WHEREAS, bullying among nurses significantly affects the quality of patient care, effects which are magnified by the serious nursing shortage. Lateral violence or bullying... can endanger patients; and

WHEREAS, few studies have been done on the subject of nurse-on-nurse violence in the U.S. compared to countries like England and Australia; and

WHEREAS, nurse researchers and writers in the field express the need for more research on lateral violence in order to better understand the phenomenon and thereby address it using empirical evidence; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the NSNA support policy development and encourage increased funding for research on lateral violence in nursing; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NSNA educate its constituents about lateral violence in nursing through publications in *Imprint*, educational sessions at conventions, if feasible, and other means deemed appropriate by the NSNA; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NSNA send a copy of this resolution to the United States Department of Labor Occupational Safety and Health Administration, the American Nurses Association, the American Association of Occupational Health Nurses, the Center for American Nurses, the National League for Nursing, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, the National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing, the National Institute of Nursing Research, and any others deemed appropriate by the NSNA Board of Directors.