

**TOPIC: IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION AGAINST GENETIC DISCRIMINATION
IN THE WORKPLACE AND FOR INSURANCE PURPOSES**

SUBMITTED BY: Florida Nursing Students' Association

WHEREAS, the 1999 National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA) House of Delegates supported genetics education for nurses and nursing students; and

WHEREAS, 93% of Americans support genetic testing for research purposes, yet most are afraid to participate; and

WHEREAS, 92% of Americans are concerned that results of genetic tests could be used in detrimental ways; and

WHEREAS the information gathered by research cannot be used to empower Americans if the public is fearful of misuse of information; and

WHEREAS, three out of four Americans support a law forbidding genetic discrimination by health insurers and employers; and

WHEREAS, there is no national legislation covering genetic testing and privacy; and

WHEREAS, there is an executive order prohibiting federal departments and agencies from using genetic information for hiring and promoting purposes; however, there is no such legislation for the general public; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA) encourage its constituents to support legislative regulation of genetic testing; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NSNA encourage its constituents to raise awareness about genetic testing at the local, state and national levels; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NSNA urge its constituents to continue advocating for patient confidentiality and autonomy in the informed consent process; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the NSNA send a copy of this resolution to the American Nurses Association, the National League for Nursing, the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, the National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing, the American Medical Association, the Genetics and Public Policy Center, the National Patient Advocate Foundation, and any others deemed appropriate by the NSNA Board of Directors.