

2026 MNA Caucus Resolutions

Each political party in Minnesota operates differently in terms of how issues end up on their respective party platforms. If your political party has an issue or legislative platform, below are two resolutions that MNA is working on legislatively at both the State Capitol and Congress. These issues will improve the lives of patients and the nursing profession. We encourage you to not only submit these resolutions at your precinct caucuses for consideration on your party platform, but to talk to those participating in caucuses about the importance of these issues to nurses working at the bedside today.

Safe Staffing

WHEREAS, the COVID-19 pandemic laid bare long-standing issues of inadequate nurse staffing that exist in Minnesota hospitals and health systems due to corporate decisions; and

WHEREAS, despite being touted as heroes during the pandemic, hospital CEOs continue to under-staff hospitals across the state; and

WHEREAS, in Minnesota, there are no standards for the number of patients a registered nurse can be assigned to care for at one time; and

WHEREAS, dozens of peer-reviewed academic studies show that nurse staffing affects patient outcomes: falls, infections, pressure ulcers, and even deaths increase the more patients a nurse is assigned; and

WHEREAS, other states have proven that unsafe hospital staffing can be addressed by creating nurse-to-patient staffing ratios in state law; and

WHEREAS, keeping registered nurses at the bedside is the most reliable and cost-effective way to ensure high-quality care that protects both patients and staff.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the (INSERT YOUR PARTY NAME) party of Minnesota supports safe staffing legislation that sets a minimum number of patients that a registered nurse can take care of at one time, and provides mental health and professional development resources that will keep Minnesota nurses working at the bedside.

Single Payer

WHEREAS, while the Affordable Care Act was a first step toward more affordable healthcare for more Americans, it continues to still leave millions uninsured, and millions more underinsured and struggling with medical bills; and

WHEREAS, the current health care system not only allows private health insurance corporations to profit from the sickness and injury of Americans, but to also improperly influence health care decisions that should only be made between providers and patients; and

WHEREAS, the One Big Beautiful Bill Act disrupts essential funding for health care, which will cause Minnesotans to lose health care access and affordability; and

WHEREAS, total health system costs in the United States continue to be the highest in the world, and continue to grow; and

WHEREAS, avoidable pain, suffering and financial disaster caused by our healthcare system will continue unless we stop treating health like a commodity and eliminate profit-motives from our healthcare system.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the (INSERT YOUR PARTY NAME) party supports a universal, single payer healthcare plan that ensures access to affordable, high-quality healthcare for all, regardless of age, income, employment, or health status.

Direct Payment - Public Programs - Health

WHEREAS, the cost of administering health care under our current multi-payer system consumes 34% of total health spending - money that delivers no actual health care. Data exists to show that government agencies can administer public programs at significantly less cost than the 15-18% overhead and profit/reserve charged by the private insurance industry; and

WHEREAS, outsourcing administration of our public health insurance coverage programs creates an unnecessary, costly, and cumbersome burden for patients, providers, and Minnesota taxpayers; and

WHEREAS, the private health insurance industry uses managed care business tactics, such as networks and other tactics that inherently disadvantage patients and providers, including small practices, rural hospitals, and independent pharmacies.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT, the (INSERT YOUR PARTY NAME) party supports the State of Minnesota terminating any existing contracts with private health insurance companies to manage or administer health coverage for persons on Minnesota Medical Assistance, MinnesotaCare, Children's Health Insurance Program, or other public programs that cover the health care needs of Minnesotans. More affordable and transparent administration of these programs would be done instead by the state or county.