

## 2022 General Assembly Minutes

### September 29, 2022

The first session of the 2022 General Assembly and annual business meeting of the members of the Emergency Nurses Association was held in Denver Colorado and was called to order at 7:30 a.m. Mountain time on Thursday, September 29, 2022 by ENA President Jennifer Schmitz, MSN, EMT-P, CEN, CPEN, CNML, FNP-C, NE-BC.

The Credentials Report was moved by ENA Immediate Past President Ron Kraus, MSN, RN, EMT, CEN, ACNS-BC, TCRN and adopted.

President Jenn Schmitz recognized Laura Gallagher for her rendition of the Star-Spangled Banner, the Denver Fire Department Color Guard, and Shelly Snow for providing a moment of reflection prior to the start of General Assembly.

Secretary/Treasurer, Chris Dellinger, MBA, BSN, RN, FAEN, delivered the state of the association to the delegation.

The 2022 General Assembly Standing Rules of Procedure was moved and adopted.

The Business Agenda included in the 2022 General Assembly Handbook was moved and adopted.

Resolutions Committee Chairperson Chris Parker, MSN, RN, CEN, CPEN, CFRN, CNL, NRP, TCRN, led the open reference hearings, which invited delegates, ENA past presidents and other ENA members to speak to all proposals.

Discussion was held regarding the following submitted proposals:

#### ***Bylaw Amendment Proposals***

- GA22-01: Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Membership Qualifications for Senior and Voting Members

#### ***Resolution Proposals***

- GA22-02: Augmenting Membership Growth and Sustainability Through the Creation of an Emergency Nurses Association Membership Focused Outreach Group
- GA22-03: Sustaining Just Culture
- GA22-04: Opposing the Criminalization of Medical Errors
- GA22-05: A Workers' Compensation and Insurance Bill to Include Psychological Injuries in the Definition of "Injury" for Healthcare Workers and First Responders
- GA22-06: Fentanyl Testing Limitations in the Emergency Department
- GA22-07: Development of Dignity Standards for the Care of the Behavioral Health Patient in the Emergency Department
- GA22-08: International Inclusivity

The meeting recessed at 11:15 a.m. Mountain time.

### September 30, 2022

The second session of the 2022 General Assembly meeting of the Emergency Nurses Association was called to order at 7:30 a.m. Mountain time on Friday, September 30, 2022 by ENA President Jennifer Schmitz, MSN, EMT-P, CEN, CPEN, CNML, FNP-C, NE-BC.

The Credentials Report was moved by ENA Immediate Past President Ron Kraus, MSN, RN, EMT, CEN, ACNS-BC, TCRN and adopted.

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Resolutions Committee Chairperson Chris Parker, MSN, RN, CEN, CPEN, CFRN, CNL, NRP, TCRN, provided the delegates with an overview of the committee's report and recommended amendments.

GA22-03: Sustaining Just Culture and GA22-05: A Workers' Compensation and Insurance Bill to Include Psychological Injuries in the Definition of "Injury" for Healthcare Workers and First Responders were adopted via unanimous consent.

A Point of Order was made that GA22-01 Proposal to Amend Bylaws should not be considered by the assembly because it was not properly noticed. The President ruled, upon the advice of legal counsel, that the notice was proper and that GA22-01 Proposal to Amend Bylaws could be considered. The member appealed the ruling of the President. Upon appeal, the President's ruling that GA22-01 Proposal to Amend Bylaws was properly noticed and could be considered was sustained by the assembly.

A motion to divide GA22-01 Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Membership Qualifications for Senior and Voting Members into three separate motions was then adopted. An explanation of the division is attached to these minutes. Those motions were titled:

- GA22-01: (A) Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Membership Qualifications for Senior and Voting Members
- GA22-01: (B) Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Membership Qualifications for Senior and Voting Members
- GA22-01: (C) Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Membership Qualifications for Senior and Voting Members

GA22-01:(A) Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Membership Qualifications for Senior and Voting Members was referred to the Board of Directors after debate.

GA22-01:(B) Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Membership Qualifications for Senior and Voting Members was adopted after amendment and debate. A copy of the amended version of GA-22:01(B) is attached to these minutes.

GA22-01: (C) Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Membership Qualifications for Senior and Voting Members was not adopted after debate.

GA22-02: Augmenting Membership Growth and Sustainability Through the Creation of an Emergency Nurses Association Membership Focused Outreach Group was adopted.

GA22-04: Opposing the Criminalization of Medical Errors was adopted as presented after debate.

GA22-06: Fentanyl Testing Limitations in the Emergency Department was adopted as presented after debate.

GA22-07: Development of Dignity Standards for the Care of the Behavioral Health Patient in the Emergency Department was not adopted after debate.

GA22-08: International Inclusivity was adopted after amendment and debate.

The General Assembly meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. Mountain time.  
Set forth below is a copy of each proposal as adopted by the General Assembly.

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### GA22-01 (B) Bylaws Amendment

#### TITLE: Proposal to Amend Bylaws: Membership Qualifications for Senior and Voting Members

- A. Voting Members – voting members shall be classified as national, international, senior, and military (“Voting Members”). Only licensed (or the equivalent thereto) professional registered nurses are eligible to be Voting Members. Voting Members shall have the right to vote, hold elected office, serve on the Board of Directors, serve on committees, and attend ENA’s meetings and social functions.
1. National membership may be granted to any individual who is a professional registered nurse licensed in the United States or its territories.
  2. International Membership may be granted to any individual who is a professional registered nurse licensed (or the equivalent thereto) outside of the United States or its territories.
  3. Senior membership may be granted to a licensed (or the equivalent thereto) professional registered nurse who is age 65 or older.
  4. Military membership may be granted to a professional registered nurse licensed in the United States or its territories who is currently serving or has been honorably discharged or retired from the United States Armed Forces including Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force, Coast Guard, and Reserve Components.

### GA22-02 Resolution

#### TITLE: Augmenting Membership Growth and Sustainability Through the Creation of an Emergency Nurses Association Membership Focused Outreach Group

*Resolved*, recommend ENA’s governing board create a voluntary membership focused outreach group to be charged with conducting focused membership outreach for the purpose of augmenting association membership communications, growth, and sustainability.

### GA22-03 Resolution

#### TITLE: Sustaining Just Culture

*Resolved*, ENA create a position statement endorsing and encouraging, the implementation of just culture;

*Resolved*, ENA consider incorporating just culture, into the future development and revision of educational materials; and

*Resolved*, ENA partner with other organizations in the dissemination of research initiatives identifying potential changes in patient safety and employee performance outcomes to strengthen a just culture.

### GA22-04 Resolution

#### TITLE: Opposing the Criminalization of Medical Errors

*Resolved*, recommends that ENA establish a workgroup to identify research and resources that can be used to increase transparency, inclusion, and collaboration among legislators, regulatory agencies, employers, nurses, the public, and prosecutorial staff on the importance of peer review and just culture as a means to improve patient safety; and

*Resolved*, that ENA draft a position statement that opposes the criminalization of medical and nursing errors and emphasizes a message that criminal prosecution of nurses should be reserved for

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those that have been investigated by the state nursing regulatory body and found to have been grossly negligent or to have willfully caused harm.

### GA22-05 Resolution

#### **TITLE: A Workers' Compensation and Insurance Bill to Include Psychological Injuries in the Definition of "Injury" for Healthcare Workers and First Responders**

*Resolved*, ENA will work with other organizations and stakeholders to advocate for development of legislation that will include mental and psychological injury in the definition of "injury" for workers compensation claims for healthcare workers and first responders.

### GA22-06 Resolution

#### **TITLE: Fentanyl Testing Limitations in the Emergency Department**

*Resolved*, that ENA develop education materials and conduct an information campaign to inform emergency department health care providers of the limitations of urine toxicology screening that does not include fentanyl;

*Resolved*, that ENA encourage its members to use these materials to educate their colleagues and hospital administrators about the importance of ensuring routine drug toxicology screening includes fentanyl; and

*Resolved*, that ENA collaborate with relevant organizations to identify and reduce barriers to testing for fentanyl and partner together to inform health care providers of the limitations of routine drug toxicology screening tests as related to fentanyl.

### GA22-08 Resolution

#### **TITLE: International Inclusivity**

*Resolved*, ENA will identify and support changes to use inclusive language within Position Statements, Clinical Practice guidance, and other education materials and other forms of communication to ensure inclusion of the international community;

*Resolved*, ENA will consider the development of an internal operational process which is inclusive and respectful of international specialty certifications;

*Resolved*, ENA will continue to collaborate with existing nursing organizations globally to ensure inclusive educational opportunities, respecting diversity and enabling participation through the removal of geographical, cultural, and language barriers; and

*Resolved*, ENA will ensure educational opportunities exist for international members to develop their skills through accredited education and utilize opportunities to provide global content relevant to international members.