

STUDENT NAME: _____

INA LEGISLATIVE DAY
Legislative and Public Policy
Assignment

Before attending INA Legislative Day it is essential that you know who your local legislators are and what their views are on particular health care issues. **Complete this activity/activities prior to our visit to the Capitol.**

1. Find out who your elected officials (House Representative and Senator) are using your hometown address and zip code at: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislators>. If you are from out of state, then locate the Senator and Representative for your school's address.

a. **State Senator:** _____ **Political Affiliation:** Republican or Democrat
Committee Assignments: _____

b. **State House Representative:** _____ **Political Affiliation:** Republican or Democrat
Committee Assignments: _____

2. Review information posted on the Iowa Nurses Association web page www.iowanurses.org.
What are the Legislative Priority Agenda Items for INA?

a.
b.
c.
d.
e.

3. Determine if the Senator and Representative you identified above in #1 have their own web page. If so, briefly summarize their stance on health care or the INA agenda items identified above in #2. Make note if the legislator's web page does not address (at all or without clarity) the INA legislative agenda priorities. Complete the table below with the information you learn from each legislator's web page.

Senator:	Representative:
a.	a.
b.	b.
c.	c.
d.	d.
e.	e.

4. Research on one or more health care or nursing practice issues that INA has identified as a Legislative Priority Agenda for the current year. Identify which priority(s) you explored and list at least 3 key points that support or explain your position.
 - a. Priority 1:
 1. Key Point 1:
 2. Key Point 2:
 3. Key Point 3:
 - b. Priority 2:
 1. Key Point 1:
 2. Key Point 2:
 3. Key Point 3:
 - c. Priority 3:
 1. Key Point 1:
 2. Key Point 2:
 3. Key Point 3:
5. As an individual, small group or as a class, send an e-mail to the Senator and Representative you identified above to let them know you will be at the Capitol for INA Legislative Day and that you would like to briefly meet with them between noon and 3:00 pm on that day to share your views on health issues in Iowa. Ask if they would want to schedule a specific time to meet with you or if you should send a page in for them when you get to the Rotunda. Most likely they will want you to send a page when you get there. Your e-mail should be brief, concise, and only address one concern. Locate your legislator and make your appointments using: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislators>
6. INA Legislative Day activities usually highlight or focus on a few specific bills although individuals can and should read any introduced bill of interest. Read one of the bills that is currently being debated during the Legislative Session and research background information. Bills can be located at: <https://www.legis.iowa.gov/legislation> by typing in the bill number.
7. Prepare talking points that define your position on your chosen bill. Talking points should:
 - a. Be concise but clear
 - b. Share specific stories or examples
 - c. Anticipate the legislator's response and possible response (frame in positive tone)
8. After you return home, create a letter or email responding to your legislators thanking them for their time and summarizing your position on the legislative issues you discussed. Send any additional information you may have indicated you would send to any legislator.
9. Talk with another student, practicing nurse or health care provider about your experience and what you learned about the legislative process or advocacy.