

What nurses know and must communicate to the public

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Public Policies, I can say, overrule Nursing practice. In fact, going by the various policies that were reviewed through NUR 654, it is blatant that Nursing is at the mercies of the Public Policies. The policies can either lift the standards of nursing or bring it down. For instance, Representative Manny Diaz had sponsored a House bill that, in my opinion, would lift the face of Nursing in the State of Florida by liberating the experienced nurses. Before then, the prior laws had tied their hands.

From a personal perspective, the policies are both constructive and destructive. These policies have been very instrumental in curbing the emergence of fraudulent nurses. The policies have always aimed at the perfection of the nursing practice. For instance, even as HB 547 sought for the liberation of nurses, it still emphasized that a nurse must be under strict supervision for a period not less than 2000 hours in 3 years. This step is just to ensure that perfection is achieved for the good of the public. However, who formulates these policies and how they are passed into laws is a debatable matter. How can a legislator who has never stepped into a Nursing class, for instance, sit down and design policies that guide the practice? What does he or she know about nursing practice? I find this a weakness in the making of public policies. I suggest that policies that govern nursing be drafted by a panel of nurses, with little political and public opinions.