

» LAAC UPDATES – JULY 2015

The LAAC provides periodic updates to inform members about recent advocacy efforts and request input from members about their advocacy needs.

New York Psychometrist Bill

The LAAC has been a long-standing supporter of NYSAN's efforts to advocate for the use of psychometrist services in clinical neuropsychology practice. Due to NYSAN's hard work and persistence, Bill S.4176-A/A.6948 has been passed by the NY State Senate and Assembly and is currently under review by Governor Cuomo. NAN, along with other members of the IOPC, recently sent a letter supporting his signature.

Texas Bill to Expand Definition of Non-Physician Mental Health Professionals

Texas Bill H.B. #1998, which expands the definition of "non-physician mental health professionals" to include occupational therapists, has been passed through the state House of Representatives and referred to the state Senate to be heard in the next legislative session. NAN and other members of the IOPC worked closely with neuropsychologists in Texas to send a letter educating legislators about the role distinctions between mental health providers and occupational therapists and will offer assistance in the future, once the Texas Legislature reconvenes.

Rhode Island Proposed Omnibus Licensing Board

Article 19 of the Rhode Island Governor's proposed 2016 budget included creation of an omnibus licensing board that would serve individuals in 25 diverse occupations, from psychologists to barbers. NAN and other members of the IOPC sent a letter educating legislators regarding the challenges and risk to the public associated with having a regulatory board made up of so many different professions, and the House Finance Committee deleted the article from the budget.

State Action Network

The LAAC needs your help to create a 50 state action network. We are looking for at least one member from each state to help us keep track of important legislation or advocacy issues that we should be aware of and working on for our members. We don't anticipate heavy time commitments and this is a great way to have your voice heard. If interested please contact: LAACCommittee@nanonline.org. We need representatives from the following states:

Arizona	Missouri	South Carolina
Connecticut	Montana	South Dakota
Delaware	Nebraska	Tennessee
Indiana	Nevada	Utah
Iowa	New Hampshire	Vermont
Kentucky	New Mexico	Washington
Maine	North Dakota	Wisconsin
Maryland	Oklahoma	Wyoming
Minnesota	Oregon	
Mississippi	Rhode Island	