

How to Start Your Resolution

Prepared by: Alex Chiu & Natalia Slezak

Co-Chairs of the CNSA Resolutions Committee
2026



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Based on: Guidelines for Planning Resolutions for the NSNA House of Delegates 2025-2026

Why write a resolution?



The Definition

A resolution is a written statement that, when adopted by the House of Delegates at the Annual Conventions of NSNA and/or CNSA, becomes the **basis for the policies and actions** of both organizations.



This means that **YOU** can make a real difference in the nursing profession!



Your work can bring vital awareness, recognition, and advocacy to your chosen topic.

Submitting to CNSA vs. NSNA

One resolution, three strategic submissions.



Chronological Process Roadmap

- **Now - Sept 5th 2026:** Topic submission Due to CNSA
- **Sept 5th - Oct 2nd: First Draft Due to CNSA**
Begin drafting your resolution!
- **Oct 2nd - Oct 16th 2026: Refinement Phase (Final Draft Due)**
Collaborate with the CNSA Resolutions Committee in preparation for the Convention.
- **Nov 6, 2026: CNSA Convention**
Present to the HOD. Defend your resolution for a chance to be the ONE nominated resolution.
- **Jan 2027: Submission Due to NSNA**
 - **If Nominated:** Receive full CNSA support for NSNA finalization.
 - **If Not Nominated:** You still can and SHOULD submit independently!
- **April 2026: NSNA Convention**

The Resolution

Resolutions are your opportunity to spread awareness, advocate, and promote nursing education or profession aspects needing attention.

They must address **one topic**, be national in scope, and align with NSNA/CNSA Bylaws and Mission.

Resolution Topic Examples

Increased awareness of early mobilization in ICU patients

Nursing faculty continuing education in LGBT+ health

Awareness about STIs among the older adult population

Mental health disorders co-occurring with drug abuse

The Resolution (Continued)

Resolution Components

1. **Topic (Title):** MAX 15 words
2. **Submitted by:** Your school name
3. **Authors:** You and your co-authors
4. **"Whereas" Statements:** MAX 300 words
 - Factual statements expressing the need
 - Cited in APA 7th ed.
5. **"Resolved" Statements:** 3-5 statements
 - Actionable requests for NSNA/CNSA
 - Influence organization policy

TOPIC:	PROMOTING NURSING EDUCATION ABOUT IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT IN HEALTHCARE TO PROTECT PATIENTS AND UPHOLD ETHICAL PRACTICE
SUBMITTED BY:	University of the Pacific Sacramento, CA
AUTHORS:	Kelsi McNeil
WHEREAS,	United States (U.S.) Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Policy Memorandum 10029.2 established guidelines governing enforcement actions at sensitive locations, including hospitals, requiring supervisory approval or exigent circumstances for such actions; and
WHEREAS,	immigration enforcement actions have occurred across the country and are associated with worsened health outcomes and reduced health-seeking behavior among undocumented and mixed-status immigrant families; and
RESOLVED,	that the National Student Nurses' Association (NSNA) encourage nursing programs across the country to include immigration-informed care as part of their curricula; and be it further
RESOLVED,	that the NSNA promote education on immigrant patient rights, including the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) protections, and encourage collaboration between constituents and their local healthcare facilities, if feasible; and be it further

Example: CNSA 2026 Nominated Resolution

Important to Know!

Guidelines & Process

- The CNSA Resolutions Committee reviews and approves submissions for 2025 following **NSNA's Resolution Guidelines 2025**.
- Accepted CNSA resolutions (**Nov 7, 2026**) require less work to meet NSNA qualifications for April 2026.
- Comprehensive guidelines and requirements are available on the NSNA Resolution Committee's Website.

Quick Links & Resources

[NSNA's Resolution Guidelines \(2026\)](#)

[2026 NSNA Resolutions Archive](#)

[2025 CNSA Resolutions Archive](#)

[Resolution Template](#)

[What to Expect at Convention](#)

[CNSA Resolutions Committee Main Page](#)

[NSNA Resolutions Committee Main Page](#)

Please refer to these documents when proofing your submissions.



The Final Product

The final product that will be submitted to both organizations consist of 6 documents:

1. Abstract

Topic, Submitted by, Authors, Abstract

2. Estimated Cost

Itemized the estimated cost to NSNA to implement the resolution.

3. Contacts

Excel file of organizations for resolution copies, if nominated.

4. The Resolution

The core document of your submission.

5. List of References

APA 7th Edition for list and in-text citations.

6. Reference Docs

All files for references cited in "Whereas" statements.

Who? Submitting and Authoring

Who may submit a resolution?

The following entities may each submit **one resolution** for consideration by the House of Delegates:

- NSNA constituent state associations
- NSNA/CNSA constituent school chapters
- NSNA Board of Directors
- NSNA Committees

Individual NSNA/CNSA members may not submit resolutions. It can only be filed by constituent school and state chapters.

Constituency status requires meeting current NSNA requirements.

Who may author a resolution?

Only **NSNA/CNSA student members** may be resolution authors.

- Faculty advisors provide *guidance only* and cannot decide topics or write content.
- There must be **one primary author**; additional authors are permitted.
- Authors must be members at the time of the Annual Convention.

All authors must be current students at the time of the convention.

Types of Resolutions

1. Resolutions of Substance

Serve as a means to express opinions, implement NSNA/CNSA purposes, and direct future action.

This is what you will be creating.

2. Courtesy Resolutions

Recognize contributions made to CNSA and NSNA by groups or individuals (e.g., honorary by acclamation).

3. Emergency Resolutions

Resolutions on topics that arise after the official resolutions deadline date.

4. Reaffirmation Resolutions

Restates a position previously taken by NSNA within the last 5 years.

Accepted only under special circumstances; avoid these. Topics must not have been presented within the last 5 years.

The Resolutions Process: Simplified

Resolution Roadmap

- 1.Choosing the Topic, Position, and Actions
- 2.Documenting the Need
- 3.Writing the Resolution
- 4.Abstracts
- 5.Reviewing, Proofing, and Approval
- 6.Submitting the Resolution

Reference Material

Click below for the complete guidelines:

[NSNA Resolutions Guidelines](#)

1. Choosing the Topic, Position, & Actions

Step 1: Selection

The first step is to determine a national issue relevant to NSNA/CNSA, nursing students, the profession, and healthcare policy.

Topics must be national in scope, implementable within resources, and align with NSNA Bylaws and mission.

Research topics that YOU are passionate about!

Things to Consider:

- Topics must not have been nominated within the last five years.
- [2026 NSNA Resolutions Archive](#)
- [CNSA Resolutions Archive](#)

**IN SUPPORT OF STRENGTHENING PUBLIC HEALTHCARE COVERAGE TO IMPROVE
OUTCOMES FOR UNDERINSURED PATIENTS**

Example: NSNA 2026 Accepted Resolution

2. Documenting the Need

Key Requirements

Because each "Whereas" statement reflects the need for the resolution, **each statement must cite a supporting reference or document.**

All supporting documents must be submitted with the resolution.

While statements must accurately reflect documentation, **direct quotes should be avoided.**

Evidence Standards: Documentation must be evidence-based and **no more than 5 years old (2020)**, unless the information is historical in nature.

WHEREAS,

WHEREAS,

WHEREAS,

WHEREAS,

WHEREAS,

implicit bias in healthcare continues to create unequal treatment, particularly in pain management. Clinical prejudice and discrimination leads to poorer pain management and outcomes for ethnically marginalized communities (Eze et al., 2022); and despite increased awareness and training initiatives, implicit bias is still widespread in all healthcare disciplines, including nursing, and contributes to disparities in clinical decision-making, diagnoses, and differences in treatment results (Gopal, Chetty, O'Donnell, Gajria, & Blackadder-Weinstein, 2021); and simulation labs are an essential part of nursing school because they offer a learning environment that is safe, reflective, and low-risk, where students can strengthen their clinical judgement skills, communication, and assessment skills prior to engaging with actual patients. Students who underwent simulation-based bias training with standardized patients showed improved confidence and efficacy in navigating diverse patient interactions (Tjia et al., 2023); and implicit bias training in health professions education has shown promise in developing learners' awareness of bias and sense of self-efficacy. This emphasizes the importance of simulation labs with positive reinforcement mechanisms to encourage long-lasting change. (Mavis et al., 2022); and outlined in the ANA Code of Ethics (2015) is to protect patients against the harm that is caused from implicit bias; implicit bias can negatively impact patient safety, patient health outcomes and trust in a healthcare system (ANA, 2015); and

Example: CNSA 2026 Nominated Resolution - Rajdeep Kaur

3. Writing the Resolution

Submission Guidelines

- Your resolution **MUST** be submitted using the official pre-formatted template.
- For references and citations, authors must use the **APA Manual, 7th Edition**.

Helpful Resources:

[NSNA's Pre-formatted Template](#)

[NSNA's Resolution Guidelines](#)

Resolution Template.docx

TOPIC:	ENTER THE TITLE/TOPIC OF YOUR RESOLUTION (NO MORE THAN 15 WORDS)
SUBMITTED BY:	Enter Name Of School Or State Chapter City/State: If School Chapter, Enter City/State Of School Program
AUTHORS:	Enter Author(S) Name(S) (First & Last)
WHEREAS,	Enter first Whereas statement here. 5-7 statements recommended. Do not exceed 10 Whereas statements. Whereas statements may not exceed 300 words total. Whereas statement must end with reference citation where information in the statement was obtained. (Citation: Author or organization if no author, year, p. #); and
WHEREAS,	Enter next Whereas statement here. Leave empty if unneeded. (Citation: Author or organization if no author, year, p. #); and
WHEREAS,	Enter next Whereas statement here. Leave empty if unneeded. (Citation: Author or organization if no author, year, p. #); and
WHEREAS,	Enter next Whereas statement here. Leave empty if unneeded. (Citation: Author or organization if no author, year, p. #); and
WHEREAS,	Enter next Whereas statement here. Leave empty if unneeded. (Citation: Author or organization if no author, year, p. #); and

Example: NSNA Resolution Template

Pro Tip:

"Formatting correctly is just as hard as composing. Do not leave this until the last minute!" - Past resolution chair

4. Abstract

Requirements

- Keep the abstract to a **75 word MAXIMUM**.
- Write three or four well-structured sentences.
- Clearly summarize the purpose and intended outcomes of your resolution.

TOPIC:	INCREASE STUDENT NURSE AWARENESS OF NURSE UNIONS AND THEIR ROLE IN HEALTH POLICY ADVOCACY
SUBMITTED BY:	California Nursing Students' Association Sacramento, CA
AUTHORS:	Michael Taningco, Julia Andres, Ashley Jackson, Andrea Lapuz
ABSTRACT:	Nurses have a growing impact on how they influence patient care, healthcare policies, and healthcare spending. Nursing unions provide a method for nurses to be aware and involved in voting and creating health policies that not only advance patient rights but also the nursing profession. This resolution aims to inform nursing students of the impact of nursing unions as another method of educating themselves in health policy as future nursing professionals.

Example: CNSA 2020 Nominated Resolution

5. Reviewing, Proofing, & Approval

Best Practices

- Reach out to your chapter Executive Committee, Board, classmates, and faculty advisors for critique and advice.
- Ensure that your Resolution is the best version of itself!
- When submitting to NSNA, you do not need CNSA approval.
- Plan for early submission to avoid last-second technical issues.

Important Deadlines

CNSA Final Draft

October 16th, 2026

CNSA Convention

November 6th-7th, 2026

NSNA Submission

January, 2027

NSNA Convention

April 2027 (Likely TBD)

6. Submitting the Resolution

This is the moment we have all been waiting for..

- [Click Me: NSNA's Resolutions Guidelines](#) outlines all components you need and how to submit.
- Submission links/forms will appear on the CNSA/NSNA Resolutions Committees' websites in the months leading up to the deadline.
- The earlier you submit your work, the earlier it can be reviewed.

After Submission

First Draft To CNSA: (Oct 2nd, 2026)

- Expect an email from the Resolutions Committee confirming your submission.
- Review process ensures alignment with **NSNA's Resolution Guidelines 2026-2027**.
- Prep work for presenting at CNSA Convention (Nov 2026).
- Maintain updated contact info for timely communication.

To NSNA: (January , 2027)

- NSNA Resolutions Committee confirmation email.
- Follow-up email for approval or requested changes.
- Convention prep for presenting/defending (April 2027).
- Ensure email and phone number are current.

At Convention:

CNSA (November 6-7, 2025)

- Opportunity to answer delegate questions before your hearing.
- Your primary chance to garner support for your resolution.
- House of Delegates: Defend and vote to become CNSA's Nominated Resolution 2026!
- More details will be shared as the convention approaches.

NSNA (April 2027)

[Click this link](#) to preview the NSNA Annual Convention 2026 experience.

Note:

This is the guide for NSNA's Annual Convention 2027. Due to unprecedented times, it is subject to change.

Final Words..

Encouragement

This may seem overwhelming, and that is expected and okay!

Take this process **step by step**. If you follow the instructions outlined by this presentation and [NSNA's Resolution Guidelines](#), you will be okay!

YOU have the opportunity to affect the nursing profession for the better!

YOUR WORK can make a difference!

Questions? Contact us!

- Email: alex@cnsa.org or natalia@cnsa.org for more information about CNSA's Resolutions, Convention etc..
- Visit: <https://www.nsna.org/resolutions-committee.html> for more information about what to expect, how to write a resolution, and everything else you need to be successful at NSNA!

As soon as you have an idea of what you would like to write your resolution on, please reach out to us so that we could begin guiding you and your team in the right direction!

We look forward to working with you!

Questions? Contact us



Alex Chiu

Univ. of Pacific
Community Health &
Legislative/Resolution Chair



Natalia Slezak

CSU Bakersfield
ByLaws & Governance
Legislative/Resolution Chair

Phone: (661)-865-8203
Email: natalia@cnsa.org

Resources

Visit [NSNA Resolutions](#) for guides and info.

Reach out early with your ideas so we can guide your team in the right direction!

We look forward to working with you!