

## Improving the Healthcare Provided to the LGBTQ+ Community

WHEREAS Alabama State Nurses Association (ASNA) promotes access to health care for all; and

WHEREAS Literature suggests that LGBTQ+ persons have significant health disparities as compared to heterosexuals (Fredriksen-Goldsen et al., 2014); and

WHEREAS The health and well-being of communities and the individuals within them benefit from biological health care, social and environmental health; and

WHEREAS ASNA recognizes that, like all people LGBTQ+ patients should be able to receive healthcare that is free from discrimination; and

WHEREAS Studies have shown the lack of awareness and education regarding the delivery of healthcare to the LGBTQ+ community is due to the shortage of health care providers who are knowledgeable and culturally competent in the health of LGBTQ+ members (Hafeez, Zeshan, Tahir, Jahan, & Naveed, 2017); and

WHEREAS Increasing knowledge and education in this area should improve nurses' LGBTQ+ cultural competencies, inclusion of more LGBTQ+ content in nursing curricula, enhance resource allocation to nursing research, education, and services; and

WHEREAS It is commemorating with ASNA's mission to raise awareness and improve culturally competent care to all people; and be it therefore

RESOLVED The Alabama State Nurses Association will continue to promote a culture of professional respect and equality within the organization and to the extent possible the entire nursing profession; and be it therefore

RESOLVED The Alabama State Nurses Association opposes discrimination of any kind in the professional healthcare community; be it therefore

RESOLVED The Alabama State Nurses Association will include questions in its survey of members to determine awareness of social and health issues regarding the LGBTQ+ community; be it therefore

RESOLVED The Alabama State Nurses Association will increase awareness of social and health issues among their members and society through its media, publications, and continuing nursing education endeavors regarding disparities faced in medical care among LGBTQ+ members; be it therefore

RESOLVED The Alabama State Nurses Association will monitor and encourage the Alabama Board of Nursing to provide culturally sensitive information on LGBTQ+ issues into online content.

Submitted by:

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#### References

- Fredriksen-Goldsen, K. I., Simoni, J. M., Kim, H. J., Lehavot, K., Walters, K. L., Yang, J., ... & Muraco, A. (2014). The health equity promotion model: Reconceptualization of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) health disparities. *American Journal of Orthopsychiatry*, 84(6), 653.
- Hafeez, H., Zeshan, M., Tahir, M. A., Jahan, N., & Naveed, S. (2017). Health care disparities among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth: a literature review. *Cureus*, 9(4).