

Advocacy: Are You Prepared?

Dale Mueller, EdD, MSN, NEA-BC

Associate Professor

California State University Dominguez Hills
California USA

Welcome

欢迎

selamat datang

ยินดีต้อนรับ

आपका स्वागत है

환영

benvenuto

ترحيب

bienvenidos

accueil

dialu-alukan

ברוך הבא

Purpose & context for the political astuteness study

- Purpose of the study – based on PAI (Clark, 1984)
 - To inform about strengths and gaps of curriculum
 - *Health Care Policy* course in RN-BSN program
 - To identify strengths and gaps for effective advocacy
- Setting
 - Demographics
 - California State University
- Context
 - Participatory democracy
 - Scope of “patient advocacy”

Presentation - learning objectives

1. Describe two ways that nurses can act as advocates in society
2. Describe at least two implications for skill-building based on study results
3. You may add your own objectives for professional growth

State of California, USA



1st in population in USA – 38M people - 12% of the nation
“Minority Majority” state

Jerry Brown



39th Governor of California

California State University Dominguez Hills

Of the 23 CSUs, Dominguez Hills is the largest minority-serving campus



California State University Dominguez Hills



Advocacy – various meanings?

- **Internal to organizations**

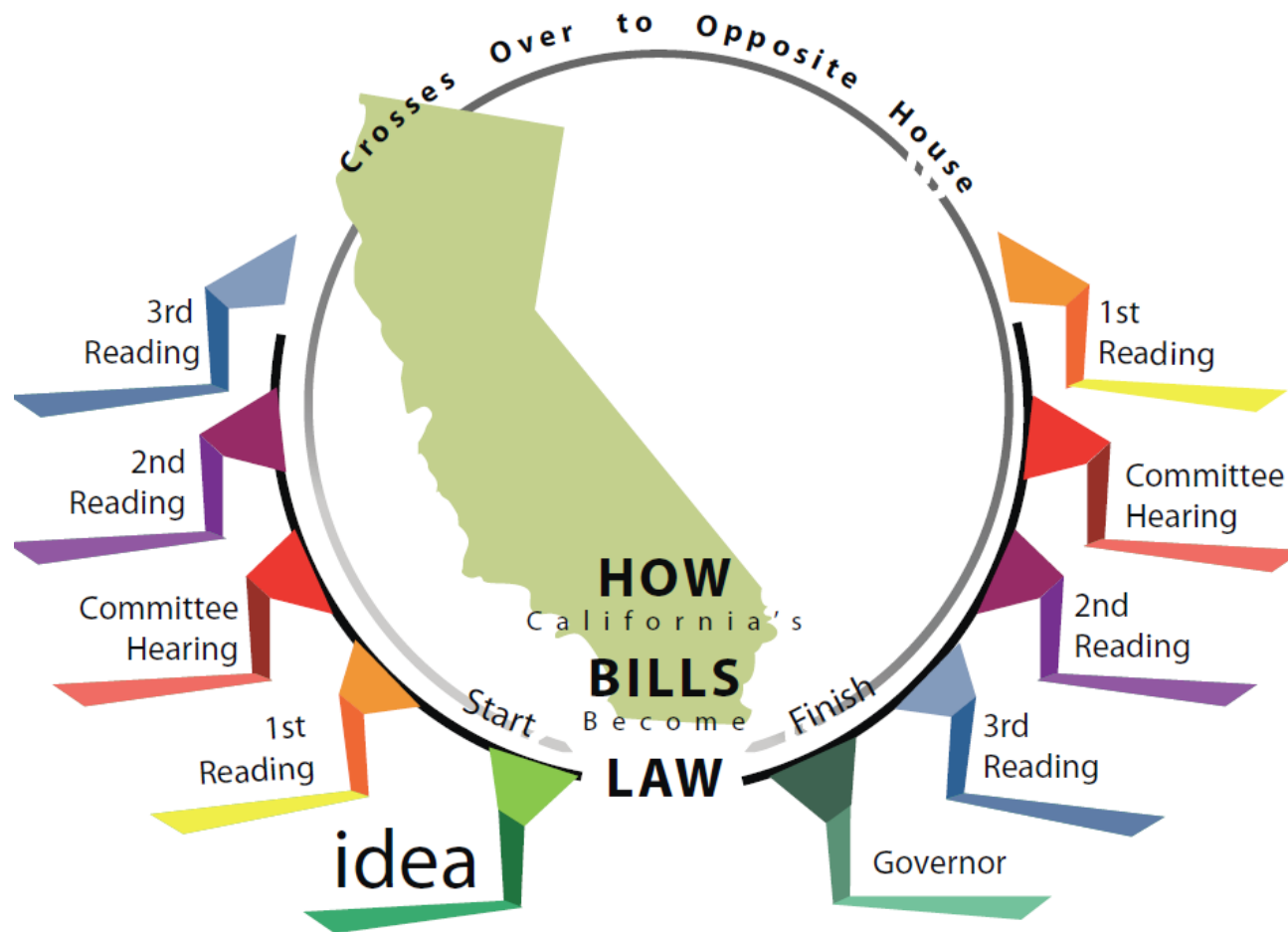
- Care in accordance with patient wishes
- Assurance of safe and appropriate care
- Assistance with access to needed services
- Spokesperson for vulnerable individuals

- **External to organizations**

- Spokesperson for vulnerable populations
- Access to care/disparity issues
- Patient ratios, fair wages, regulatory concerns
- Public health and environmental issues
- Information resource for elected officials
- Information resource for communities
- Engagement opportunities for public service & leadership

California State Legislature

How a Bill Becomes a Law



Voters have the power to initiate a ballot measure directly by petition (Proposition) without going through the legislature.

Study – Political Astuteness

BSN Health Policy course – Demographics (n=349)

Demographics			
	< 5 years	5-9 years	> 9 years
Years Practiced as an RN	59%	25%	16%
Age Group	20-29 yr	30-39 yr	40+ yr
	34%	45%	20%

Study – Political Astuteness

BSN Health Policy course (n=349)

Pre-test – questions about voting (participatory democracy) and awareness of issues where advocacy positions can be expressed

Political Activity and Knowledge		
	YES	NO
Registered to vote	86%	14%
Voted in last presidential election	73%	29%
Voted in last local election	40%	60%
Aware of current issues discussed by nursing organizations	22%	80%
Attended recent state or national nurses organization conference	6%	94%

Study – Political Astuteness

BSN Health Policy course (n=349)

Pre-test – questions related to actions based on political astuteness

Political Activity and Knowledge		
	YES	NO
Know whom to contact for health-related issues at state or federal level	24%	76%
Know which elected officials are supportive of nursing	12%	86%
Have communicated with a legislator on health issues	7%	89%
Personally acquainted with a senator or representative	3%	95%
Served as a resource person on health related issues	1%	98%

Study – Political Astuteness

BSN Health Policy course

Political Activity and Knowledge		
	PRE-TEST N=349	POST-TEST N=204
Registered to vote	86%	86%
Voted in last election	73%	72%
Voted in last local election	40%	40%
Attended recent state or national nurses organization conference	6%	8%
Aware of current issues discussed by nursing organizations	20%	41%
Know whom to contact for health-related issues at the state or federal level	21%	86%
Know which elected officials are supportive of nursing	12%	73%
Have communicated with a legislator on health issues	7%	27%
Personally acquainted with a senator or representative	3%	6%
Served as a resource person on health related issues	1%	3%

Recommendations

- **Within the Health Policy Course**

- Incorporate hands-on skill building exercises
- Raise awareness about scope of advocacy
- Experiences throughout the curriculum

- **Nurses, Nationwide**

- Pretest provides a snapshot of nurses in general
 - How to raise awareness of public issues?
 - How to foster civic engagement by nurses?
 - How to facilitate collaborative work on public concerns?
 - How to advocate for disenfranchised and vulnerable populations in civic life?
 - How to educate elected officials and candidates for public office?

**Thank you!!
Comments and
Questions are
Welcomed**

Dale Mueller, EdD, MSN, NEA-BC
dmueller@csudh.edu