INTRODUCTION
Nursing advocacy encompasses issues pertaining to patients, self, and professional domains. Nurses are trusted and respected by patients and the health care industry, evidenced by the health care system, nursing ethics, and roles in the profession with the highest ethical standards (ANA, 2015). These are necessary for the advancement of health policy, influencing the system, and role in policy. The role of nurse advocate is to promote safe care and improve patient outcomes, ensuring that health policies and collective nursing commitment is needed in the workplace and at state and national levels invested in professional organizations. Health care is in a continuous state of change while these nurses have the opportunity to influence the future of their professions (ANA, 2015). This defines the familiar role of patient advocate and less familiar responsibility of professional and self-advocate, citing less common territory for many nurses. The ANA’s Code of Ethics expands these responsibilities to mentoring, care review, professional work, and professional membership etc. Nurses must develop and refine their communication, advocacy engagement, collaborative, and influential skills to serve patients and their profession. Though there is a large body of evidence that supports collective advocacy, it should not diminish the power of the individual personal domain. Ethics and justice underpin personal nursing practices, its positive influence on society (IOM, 2011).

FINDINGS
The nurse-advocate role familiarly demonstrating a continuum of expertise exemplified in Benner’s Novice to Expert theory when embarking on nurse advancement. (Nurse 2018) The role of nurse professional and nurse activities state driving improvement have made the process of discussing proactive instead of reactive, using their voices and expertise to influence and become a change agent. It is often the belief or lack of policy and legislation influencing the process. Their influence needed, desired, and respected. Nurses, Levitt, & Denyer (2014) Nurse education and mentors must provide a foundation of knowledge, skills, and advocacy because of their relevance to professional practice and an expectation of professional responsibility and advocacy. (Logan, Pauling, & Franzen, 2011). Nursing students must comprehend the advocacy connection of nursing care, legislative action, and health policy care, which has a major effect on patient and professional affairs. They must utilize their ability to influence and move change.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION
The Colorado Nurses Association (CNA) piloted an advocacy webinar to evaluate this method to promote engagement of nurses and non-nurses. The project, titled “Colorado Nurses Association: Influencing Health Policy and Advocacy Webinar Boot Camp,” supported nurses and non-nurses to engage in the process of influencing policy and advocacy. The content focus and scope from the CNA Government Affairs and Public Policy (GAPP) committees created individual PowerPoint® presentations which comprised discussion and evaluation session. The Western Multi-State Division (WMSD) application was submitted for 1.5 continuing education credit approval. The selected webinar content was based on information from a review of literature.

GOALS & OBJECTIVES
The review of literature supports the need for health policy and advocacy education in nursing curriculum in developing knowledge, teaching, and providing professional membership, leadership, and the opportunity to influence policy. The purpose of this webinar pilot was to create an instructional format in delivering educational content to Colorado Nurses Association members.

CONCLUSIONS
There is a notable disconnect between the 3.4 million registered nurses and their engagement in professional membership, legislative involvement, and policy-making. (Sarwar, 2018) Such an engagement discrepancy has an impact on patients. ‘Registered Nurse Perceptions and Practices Related to Health Policy,’ is evident that nurses have the ability to influence health care policy, which supports optimal patient outcomes yet do not exercise their full potential in their collective voice.

30th Institute of Medicine (2010) report, “The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health.” The report, states the necessity for nurses to participate in policy development and dissemination of research. This paper will evaluate the potential of the webinar content to engage nurses in influencing health care policy and leadership.

REFERENCES