

Texas Nurses Association Update on SB25

Preparedness Coordinating Council
October 21, 2024

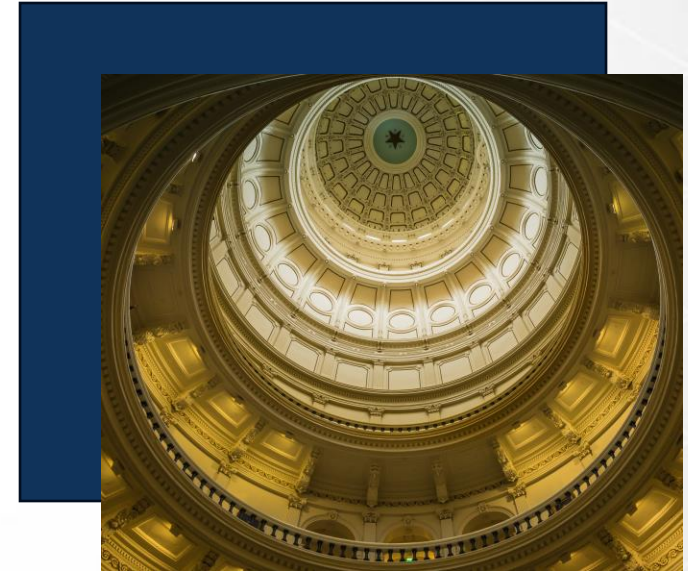
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Chief Executive Officer
Texas Nurses Association



Preparing for the Session



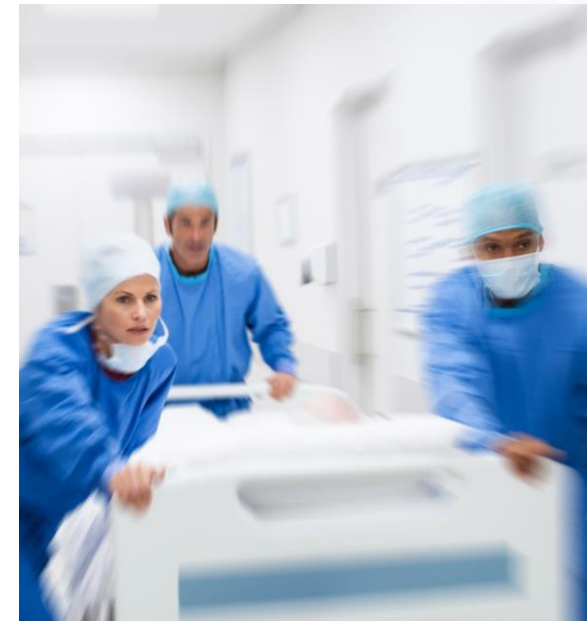
- TNA's policy committees studied the issues
 - Nurses conducted research
 - Nurses made recommendations
 - TNA assembled coalitions of support
 - TNA briefed the Legislature with coalition support
- Early wins indicated strong momentum
 - TNA's proposed bills were introduced early
 - Legislative leadership elevated the issues



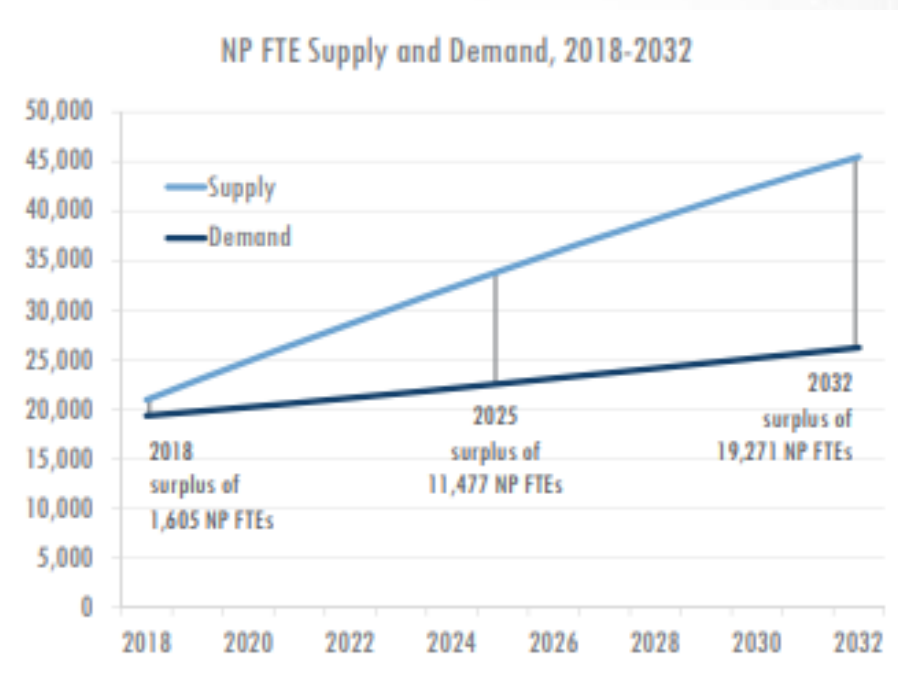
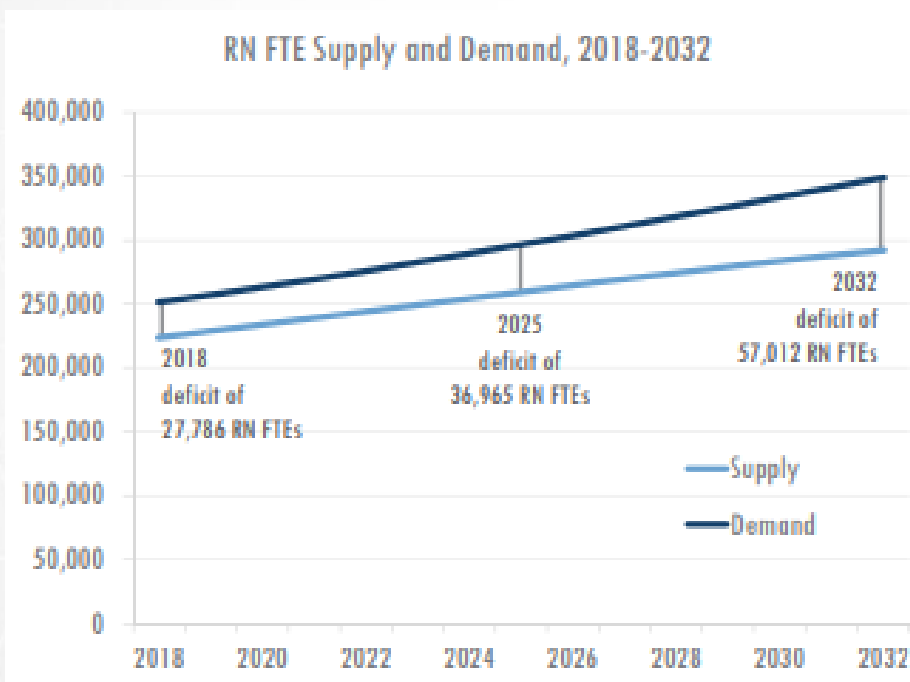
Staffing Shortages



- Leading into the 88th session
 - Data showed a shortage of at least 30,000 nurses
 - Education funding was insufficient
 - Nurses were severely short staffed



Shortage Data



Shortage Reduction – Room to Grow



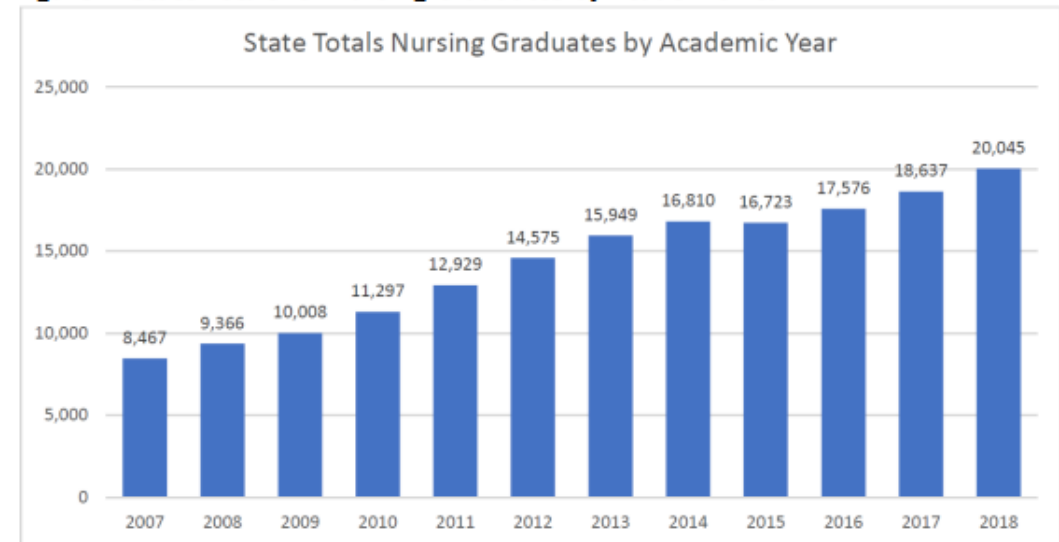
Table 1. Summary of Texas RN Enrollment-Graduation-Admissions Reports 2009-2018

Period	Pre-RN Licensure Student Admissions for Academic Year	Year-to-Year Percentage Change	Qualified Applications Not Offered Admission
2008-2009	10,856		8,957
2009-2010	12,953	19.3%	11,217
2010-2011	13,975	7.9%	10,838
2011-2012	13,830	-1.0%	11,152
2012-2013	14,809	7.1%	12,000
2013-2014	13,827	-6.6%	9,403
2014-2015	14,642	5.9%	7,255
2015-2016	14,969	2.2%	7,440
2016-2017	15,686	4.8%	10,353
2017-2018	16,284	3.8%	12,916

Note: These totals include all Texas institutions, including for-profit institutions.

Source: Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies

Figure 1. State Totals for Nursing Graduates by Academic Year

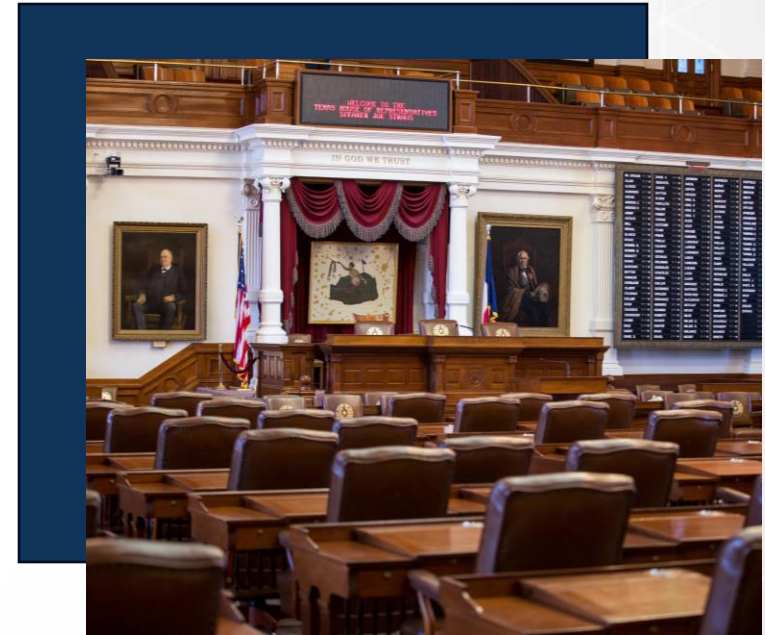


Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board CBM reports

Nurses Advocated for Big Bills



- SB 25 sought to address the nursing shortage
 - It streamlined education funding programs
 - It targeted bottlenecks in the education pipeline
- SB 240 sought to address workplace violence
 - It established a comprehensive prevention framework
 - It provides new anti-retaliation protections to nurses



TNA Priority Bills



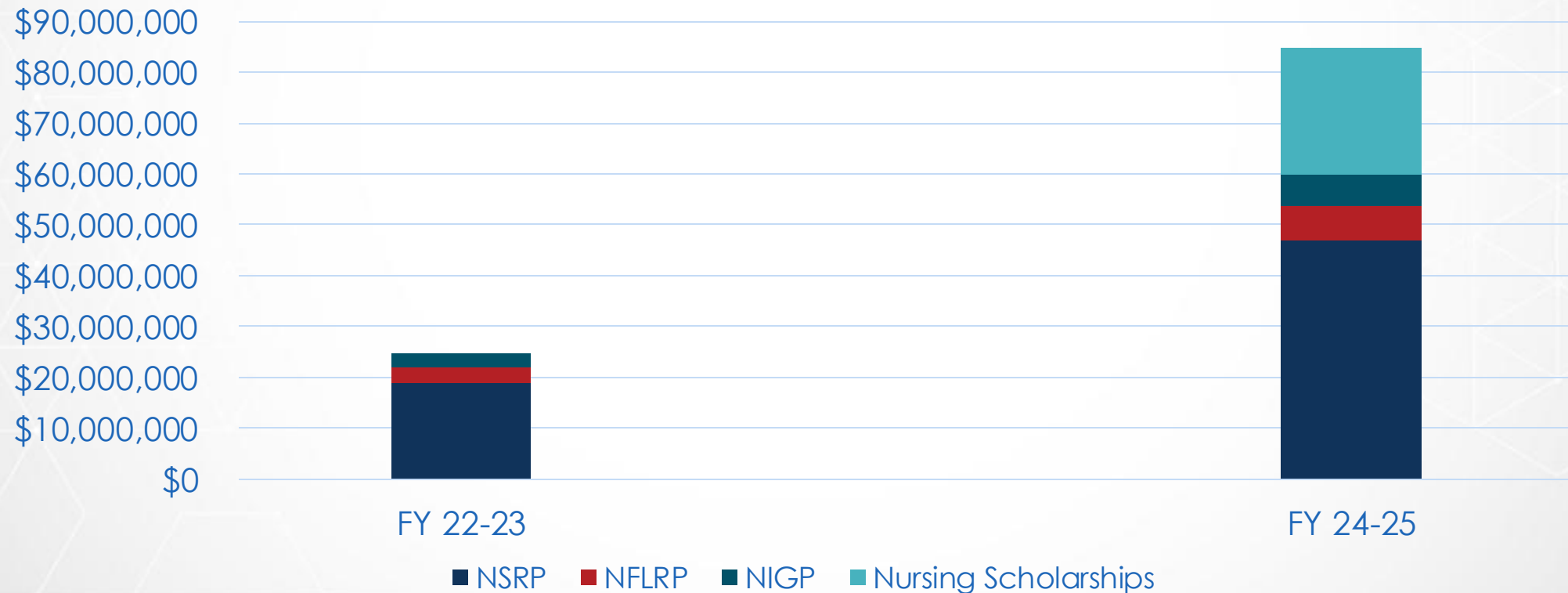
- SB 25 Passed
 - Unanimous support in the Senate (31-0)
 - Supermajority support in the House (146-1, 1 PNV)
- SB 240 Passed
 - Unanimous support in the Senate (31-0)
 - Supermajority support in the House (122-26, 1 PNV)



HB 1 – Nursing Education Funding



Nursing Education Funding Comparison Between
FY 22-23 and FY 24-25



TNA Supports Nursing Education



GEER Funds	
NSRP	\$3.75M
NFLRP	\$4M
NIGP	\$8.5M
Open Educational Resources for Nursing Essentials	\$5.23M
State FY 24-25 Budget – HB 1	
NSRP	\$46.8M
NFLRP	\$7M
NIGP	\$6M
Nursing Scholarships	\$25M

TNA Supports Nursing Education



\$106,280,000

SB 25 – Nursing Education Funding



- SB 25 is a historic investment:
 - It created a new scholarship program.
 - It expanded faculty loan repayment.
 - It extended innovation grants to 2027.
 - It invested in admissions, faculty, and clinicals.



SB 25 – New Unfunded Programs



- SB 25 created new clinical funding programs:
 - Clinical Site Nurse Preceptor Program;
 - Clinical Site Innovation and Coordination Program;
 - Nursing Faculty Grant Program: Part-time Positions;
 - Nursing Faculty Grant Program: Clinical Training.



SB 25 in Practice



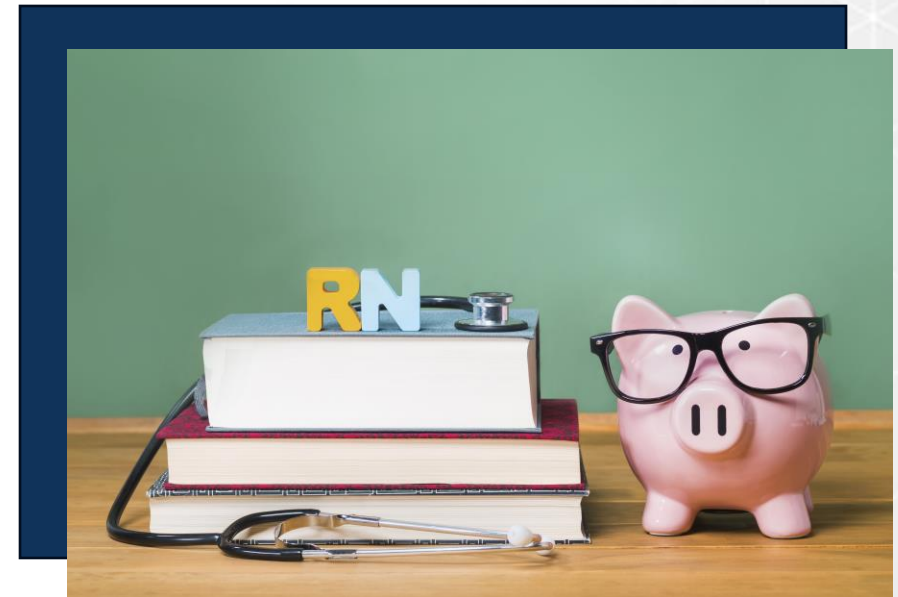
- Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
 - Publishes rules
 - Adopts rules
 - Publishes applications
 - Distributes awards



SB 25 in Practice Cont.



- What does it mean for me?
 - Loan repayment opportunities
 - Grant opportunities
 - More nurses to relieve the shortage
 - Opportunities to mentor
 - Better care





Healthcare Workforce Taskforce

Texas Higher
Education
COORDINATING BOARD

TEXAS HEALTHCARE
WORKFORCE
TASK FORCE



18 Recommendations



Collaborating Across Agencies to Build a Healthcare Workforce Pipeline

- 1 Coordinate state healthcare workforce planning more effectively by creating the Statewide Health Professions Workforce Coordinating Council (HPWCC).

Expanding the Pipeline

- 2 Expand the number of pharmacy technicians in Texas.
- 3 Create a start-up fund for sponsors of apprenticeship programs.
- 4 Improve the alignment of curriculum for credentials between high school and post-secondary programs.
- 5 Study the feasibility of creating partnerships for sharing practice lab resources across educational institutions.
- 6 Expand the availability of uniform, high quality instructional materials for health professions related courses and CTE programs.
- 7 Study the feasibility of community colleges to expand four-year degree programs for health professionals in specific circumstances.

18 Recommendations



Modernizing the Production Pipeline

- 8 Streamline the nursing school application process by including nursing school programs in the Texas Medical & Dental Schools Application Services.
- 9 Create a Gold Ribbon Panel on the Future of Nursing.
- 10 Revisit Health and Safety Code Chapter 257 to ensure effective compliance and enforcement of the nursing staffing statute.
- 11 Improve the alignment of the nursing profession career pathway.
- 12 Create a clear career pathway that facilitates the transition of certain allied health professionals into the nursing profession.

Exploring Options in Medicaid

- 13 Investigate the feasibility of establishing a workforce development initiative in Texas Medicaid.

Bolstering the Faculty and Preceptors

- 14 Enhance state support for creating local and regional collaborations.
- 15 Study the feasibility of implementing a statewide system for coordinating clinical training placements.
- 16 Create a program evaluation unit to research and identify effective innovations in education and training of healthcare professionals.
- 17 Consider making investments in the unfunded Senate Bill 25 (88R) programs.
- 18 Continue investment in scholarship and loan repayment programs.