

ANA-NY gave out 20 awards (an increase from last year) to nursing graduates from across the state. I hope to see some of you at our annual conference or at a virtual event soon. We're glad you are here. ■

References

Reyes, K. & Souffrant Forrest, P. (2025, May 21). Tales from the Bedside: A Nurses'-Eye View on Medical Aid in Dying. *Empire Report*. <https://empirereportnewyork.com/tales-from-the-bedside-a-nurses-eye-view-on-medical-aid-in-dying/>

Robinson, D. (2025, May 21). New York bill that would allow medically assisted suicide gains support. *Poughkeepsie Journal*. <https://www.poughkeepsiejournal.com/story/news/2025/05/21/should-doctor-assisted-suicide-be-legal-ny-weighs-new-law/83766597007/>

From the Desk of the Executive Director

Jeanine Santelli, PhD, RN, AGPCNP-BC, FAAN, Faith Community Nurse

We are looking forward to seeing you in person and empowered at our Annual Conference! We'll be grooving to a 60's theme at the TWA terminal at JFK. Here's a fun fact: a few of our members immigrated to the US through this very terminal! If you are in that group, let me know and we'll grab a photo opportunity.

We have returning favorites from previous conferences including the poster blitz, podium and poster presentations from our members, our ticketed Awards Gala celebrating this year's ANA-NY Member Awards recipients, another mural to

paint with Splashes of Hope, our annual membership business meeting, the Nightingale Tribute by the Nurse Honor Guard, The Nurses House Walk, and our amazing and energetic lobbyist Amy.

Enhancements this year include increased environmental sustainability measures, pet therapy guests, and the timing of our committee transition. We are hoping that having the outgoing, continuing, and incoming committee members meet at the conference will increase team building and continue the momentum of the very important work of our

committees striving toward the ANA-NY Strategic Goals.

Be Empowered Through Change with our featured speakers. Enhance your EBP skills with training sessions for all levels. Learn the ins and outs of running for an elected position. Lighten things up with humor and magic. Meet and sing along with "The National Anthem Girl."

The staff have been working for years to put together an exciting, invigorating, and empowering conference for our members and guests and we can't wait to share it with you. See you in a few weeks! ■



Legislative Update

Amy Kellogg and Caiti Anderson

Thursday, June 12, was the last scheduled day of New York's 2025 legislative session. The Senate completed their business early on Friday, June 13. The Assembly returned the following week and concluded their business on Wednesday, June 18.

The legislative session in Albany is normally measured in two phases: budget time, which runs until sometime around the April 1 budget deadline, and post-budget, which runs from when the budget is done until the end of session. Traditionally, the post-budget phase lasts about eight weeks. However, this year's post-budget phase was significantly truncated because of the late State budget. The State budget was not finalized until May 9, which meant it was 38 days late, marking the latest State budget since 2010.

The late state budget created challenges for the Legislature to address a myriad of policy priorities, but both houses did pass several high-priority proposals that were of interest to ANA-NY.

One of these issues was the Medical Aid in Dying Act. This bill would allow a terminally ill patient to request and use medication for medical aid in dying. Eleven other states and the District of Columbia permit medical aid in dying, but New York's bill is much more narrow than other jurisdictions. It would apply only to individuals who have an incurable and irreversible illness with six months or less to live, which would need to be confirmed by two doctors. The request for medical aid in dying assistance would need to be witnessed by two adults who



do not stand to inherit anything in the case of the patient's death. The legislation was first introduced a decade ago, and this year is the first year it has passed either house. While ANA-NY had not previously taken a position on this legislation, the Legislative Committee voted to support this legislation, and we will be issuing a letter of support to the Governor when the bill is sent to her for her consideration.

Another bill of interest to ANA-NY that passed both houses would require hospitals to establish a violence prevention program. This program would need to include workplace safety and security assessments. Further, the hospital must develop a safety and security plan that addresses identified workplace violence threats or hazards. The