

## 2011 Legislative and Regulatory Agenda

### **Priority Issue: Authorizing pharmacists to accept all prescriptions from out-of-state ARNPs**

A law passed in 2010 authorized pharmacists to accept prescriptions from ARNPs licensed in any state or in a province of Canada that shares a common border with the state of Washington. Shortly after the law was signed, a legal analysis identified a technical error. Only the pharmacy act was amended. For pharmacists to accept all prescriptions a section of the state's controlled substances act also needed to be amended. This resulted from an inadvertent omission when the bill was drafted.

### **Legislation is proposed to authorize Washington pharmacists to fill prescriptions for controlled substance prescribed by out-of-state ARNPs by amending RCW 69.50.101.**

#### **Support:**

Legislation of advanced practice nursing and other nursing organizations that are consistent with ARNPs United of Washington State's legislative agenda including legislation to:

- Authorize respiratory therapist to accept orders from ARNPs and other health professionals in addition to physicians
- Create pharmacy take back programs for unused medications
- Preserve key health safety net programs including Maternity Support Services, the Basic Health Plan, and Apple Health for Kids

#### **Monitor:**

- Health care bills that affect Washington residents' access to care
- Health care bills affecting funding for state health plans
- Health care bills that affect ARNP autonomy
- Health care bills to ensure ARNPs are included in the language wherever "physician" is written
- Health care bills affecting funding for public health and nursing education
- Rules for pharmacies and pharmacists in filling prescriptions they may find objectionable

#### **Active Involvement:**

- Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission pain management guidelines rule process and policies for implementation