

# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE



**JAMES CAVANAGH, JD**  
**MRS LOBBYIST**

## OVERVIEW

The Legislature is on break until November 30 for the firearm deer season and the Thanksgiving Holiday. Even after the 2021-22 Budget was passed, there is still nearly \$11 billion which Michigan derived from its share of the federal COVID Recovery dollars from the Trump Administration, and COVID Rescue funds from the Biden Administration. In addition, the State's General Fund is flush due to unexpectedly high tax revenue. At this time, it is believed these excess funds will be appropriated through a series of supplemental funding bills to be enacted later this year into next, and possibly beyond. There now appears to be some consensus among Democrats and Republicans about how to apply the funds. There is also growing momentum for infrastructure and, in particular, a dramatic increase in behavioral health beds, especially for young people. With regard to policy, there are efforts in both Houses to revamp the way behavioral health services are administered. Specialty nurses are at it again attempting to expand their scope of practice which includes ordering and interpreting imaging. MRS leadership is working with MSMS to combat any such effort.

### Nurses Seek to Practice Radiology:

SB 680, sponsored by Sen. Rick Outman, (R-Six Lakes) would establish the category of "certified nurse practitioners" (CNP) in statute and would greatly expand their scope of practice. The bill allows a CNP to determine a diagnosis, which is, in essence, the practice of medicine. The bill also allows CNPs to prescribe pharmacological and non-pharmacological "interventions and treatments" that are within their specialty role. Finally, the bill allows CNPs to supervise others and to order, perform, supervise and interpret laboratory and imaging studies. Clearly, this is the practice of medicine and radiology.

MRS will be working with MSMS to defeat this bill. I will be heading up an initial grassroots effort. While this bill just was introduced and is still with the Senate Health Policy and Human Services Committee, it is "all hands on deck" for this one.

[Click here](#) for the full article.