

# A Nurse is **NOT** a Punching Bag!

## Violence in hospitals has reached epidemic proportions.

Hospitals are increasingly violent workplaces, both for employees and for patients. Violence against nurses and other health care workers, which can range from verbal and emotional abuse to physical assault and homicide, is not uncommon in hospitals and other health care settings. This violence can be perpetrated by patients, families, friends, visitors, and even co-workers.



## The Massachusetts Nurses Association has developed a comprehensive package of bills designed to address this crisis:

1. **Prevent the Violence:** An Act Requiring Health Care Employers to Develop and Implement Programs to Prevent Workplace Violence (SB988) filed by Rep. Costello and Sen. Timilty.
2. **Punish the Offenders:** An Act Relative to Assault and Battery on Health Care Providers (HB1696/SB1753) filed by Rep. Rodrigues and Sen. M. Moore.
3. **Manage Chronic Risks:** An Act Relative to Creating a Difficult to Manage Unit within the Department of Mental Health (HB1931) filed by Rep. Haddad.

Please come to the State House on Wednesday, March 31! The MNA will conduct a lobby day to talk to legislators about these important bills. The lobby day will start at 11:00 a.m. in Room B-2. Please complete the form below and give it to your bargaining unit Chair or an MNA staff person.



## With your help, we can take steps to STOP this violence.

For more information, contact Riley Ohlson at the Massachusetts Nurses Association at 781-830-5740.

# YES!

 I want to help pass legislation to help reduce violence against health care workers!

I WILL attend the Lobby Day on March 31<sup>st</sup>!       I will need transportation

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Best phone number to reach you: \_\_\_\_\_

Bargaining Unit: \_\_\_\_\_ Hospital Unit (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_ Shift: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a story to tell legislators about violence you've experienced or witnessed at work? Describe: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

### I'd like to help in other ways too! I can:

- Come to the State House another day to talk to legislators.
- Attend a meeting with my legislator and a small group of MNA members.
- Make phone calls to other MNA members about this issue.

Please complete this form and give it to your bargaining unit Chair or an MNA staff person.