

# Power and Resources



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## UAN 5th Anniversary

The National Labor Assembly convenes March 16-17 at the Hotel Washington in the District of Columbia. Some 100 elected staff nurse delegates from every UAN state will set the direction for the union in the year ahead and celebrate five years of accomplishment as the nation's premier union of, by and for staff nurses. The theme for 2005:

## The Power of Nurses

## 109th Congress Agenda

UAN nurses will kick off the union's federal legislative agenda for the 109th Congress with a Legislative Action Program and meetings with Representatives and Senators preceding the 2005 NLA. Safe staffing ratios legislation, the elimination of mandatory overtime for RNs, and the Employee Free Choice Act to protect the right to choose a union top the agenda for the new Congress. Rep. Jan Schakowsky (D-IL), who took the lead on staffing ratios legislation in the last Congress, will again introduce that measure.

Other Congressional issues affecting nurses this session include comp time and Social Security privatization. As details emerge, UAN's legislative department will provide further information, along with bill numbers and sponsors for UAN-backed legislation.

## National Labor Cabinet to Strengthen State and National Ties

UAN Executive Council and the Organizational Structure Committee (OSC) would establish an advisory National Labor Cabinet comprised of state E&GW chairs. The NLC would meet twice annually — chaired by

the UAN President — to provide information about state issues, address national priorities, provide guidance to the Executive Council for decision making, and communicate with members and leaders in the states.

In 2004 the National Labor Assembly, UAN's highest governing body, directed the OSC to compile and evaluate options as to the composition of the Executive Council. The proposed resolution is a result of that consideration.