



**2009 Annual Meeting
Public Policy Workgroup Report
Submitted by: Zenobia Harris and
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The purpose of the ASTDN Public Policy Workgroup is: to formalize the annual policy agenda for ASTDN; to provide a mechanism within ASTDN to respond to public policy proposals, legislative or otherwise, affecting public health nursing and public health; and to provide a mechanism for ASTDN advocacy on issues related to public policy affecting public health and public health nursing

Committee has been working to develop **Public Policy Guidebook for ASTDN Members: Tools and Guidelines for Providing Advice to Policy Makers.**

Committee members this year include: Barbara Hickok, Carole Jakeway, Darryl Block, Fran Ahern Smith, JoAnn Dotson; Joy Reed, Juanita Graham, Kristin Bennett, Meshell McCloud, Michelle Cravetz, Rhonda Richtsmeier, Rita Gallagher, Ramona Rusinak, Sara Wilson, Cathalene Teahan, Zenobia Harris and Diana Anaya-McMaster. We cannot thank them enough for all of their time and effort!

Special thanks go to Sara Wilson for her technical expertise in working with DimDim (an internet application) which facilitated the process of developing the Guidebook *and* to Michelle Cravets for her expertise, knowledge and guidance. Their dedication and skills were instrumental to the success of the workgroup.

In addition to the developing the Guidebook, members were asked to review legislation and public policy and make recommendations to the Executive Committee. Many times these request required recommendations be provided in a very short time frame.

These are exciting times in the area of public policy and change at a nation level and public health nursing is leading the way. Our members are up to the task!