

# NHA ADVOCACY & POLICY

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## NHA Policy Development Process

The Nebraska Hospital Association's (NHA) policy development process begins and ends with the NHA board of directors. The board, which consists of 17 member hospital CEOs and executives, is the sole body within the NHA that has authority and responsibility to establish policy for the NHA.

In the summer, the board initiates the policy development process by identifying and prioritizing which critical issues must be addressed during the upcoming legislative session. Those critical issues are selected from the annual member "Policy Development Process State Survey," which is distributed in the summer.

Each critical issue is then assigned to a Priority Issue Team (PIT) consisting of up to 10 hospital CEOs and executives. Each PIT is charged with directing NHA staff to conduct research on the issue assigned, analyze the research results, make recommendations on any further research, if necessary, and, once an issue has been thoroughly and satisfactorily researched and analyzed, to advance a position and strategy recommendation to the NHA Policy Development Committee (PDC).

The PDC is another invaluable group of key hospital leaders who work year-round as coordinators, promoters and advocates of legislative health issues. The PDC reviews each PIT recommendation for how the NHA should proceed regarding legislation that would affect Nebraska's hospitals.

The PDC receives a summary analysis of each issue, analyzes each PIT recommendation and, after deliberation, formulates its own recommendations to be considered by the NHA board.

After receiving the PDC recommendations, the board analyzes and deliberates the findings for each recommendation. Each recommendation is either formally adopted (requiring a majority vote), amended and then adopted or rejected.

