



## **PENNSYLVANIA NURSES OPPOSE GOV. CORBETT'S PRIVATIZATION PUSH**

PHILADELPHIA – (JANUARY 30, 2013) Gov. Corbett's plan to dramatically increase the number of retail liquor, beer and wine outlets in the state would jeopardize public health and should be rejected by lawmakers, according to the Pennsylvania Association of Staff Nurses and Allied Professionals (PASNAP).

"Our nurses are on the front lines every day, dealing with accidents and crimes that all too often have been fueled by alcohol," said Patricia Eakin, a fulltime ER nurse in Philadelphia and statewide President of the union. "Our state does not need more liquor stores and we do not need to start selling beer in every corner store. This is bad public policy."

PASNAP represents 5,000 Registered Nurses and other professionals at hospitals statewide.

Eakin cited the Centers for Disease Control's recommendation against the further privatization of the retail sale of alcohol as reason enough for lawmakers to reject Gov. Corbett's proposal.

According to the task force, "the maintenance of government control of off-premises sale of alcoholic beverages is one of many effective strategies to prevent or reduce excessive consumption which is one of the leading causes of preventable death and disability."

"Our members will be working with other professionals in the public health sector who recognize that Pennsylvania does not need to go down this reckless path. Studies in other states and countries echo the findings of the CDC – privatization just does not work," said Eakin.