

March 23, 2020



Dear Nursing Colleagues,

As I write this, I know that each of you are challenged with your personal and professional response to this worldwide pandemic. I wanted to first express the sincere appreciation of your Board Members and Board staff for your continued dedication to the patients in Louisiana in your point of care activities. Nurses have always answered the call to provide excellent care to patients in need, whether it be in their state, nation or worldwide. You continue to demonstrate that commitment, which explains why, year after year, you are honored in the Gallup Poll as the profession with the highest level of integrity.

17373  
Perkins Road  
Baton Rouge,  
LA 70810

web: [lsbn.state.la.us](http://lsbn.state.la.us)  
phone: 225.755.7500  
fax: 225.755.7584

At LSBN, we know you are frightened, stressed and overworked. You risk being exposed yourself and you risk sharing that exposure with your family members. You are concerned about your friends, neighbors and fellow citizens. We share these emotions and we want you to know LSBN is doing everything in its power to assist and support your efforts. We are implementing emergency actions that will facilitate licensure, both for new graduates or soon to graduate nursing seniors and for nurses who wish to reinstate their licenses. We initiated our remote work plan last week and 80% of the staff is working remotely supported by the Executive Team working on site. We can continue with all agency functions under this system, but we are prioritizing keeping RNs licensed or getting them licensed.

I am always proud of my profession, but never more so than in a crisis when you always step up to the plate to care for our fellow citizens. Your expertise has never been more needed than it is now. Know that while you care for our residents affected by COVID-19, LSBN will be here to support your efforts working in collaboration with the Louisiana Department of Health and other health agencies in the state. If you have any requests or suggestions on how we can better assist you, please contact me directly at [lyonk@lsbn.state.la.us](mailto:lyonk@lsbn.state.la.us). We will keep you in our thoughts and prayers. On a final note:

*I can do all this through him who gives me strength.*

Philippians 4:13

For the Public Trust,

Karen C. Lyon

Karen Carter Lyon, PhD, APRN, MBA, NEA<sub>BC</sub>  
Chief Executive Officer/Executive Director/Appointing Authority