**Government Preparedness in Your Location**

**Lafayette, Louisiana is my location.**

**OVERVIEW**

At this point in your career and education, you realize nurses are involved in the oversight of many healthcare areas and directly involved in many steps of the preparation for disasters (Veenema, 2007). Nurses must understand laws that directly affect their professionalism. Furthermore, nurses can significantly impact laws being considered (Kearney-Nunnery, 2008). Since our class is spread across the country, it is not possible to identify the various state and local laws that affect nursing and healthcare provision during a disaster. Learning is a life-long activity for the professional nurse (Huckabay, 2009). It is now time for you to educate yourself concerning your own State, County/Parish ***or*** City/Town laws that directly affect your professional healthcare delivery. The education process is not complete until you can share that knowledge with others.

This activity is worth 8% of your total grade.  You can expect individual feedback within a week of the Thursday 8pm due date/time.

**DIRECTIONS:**

**Do not post before 8am *Sunday* of Week 3.**

Post an INITIAL RESPONSE answering the following questions **by 8pm *Tuesday* of Week 3:**

1. Research your State, County/Parish ***or*** City/Town laws. Identify which ***one*** entity you have chosen.

2. State the law per APA format for citation in text. (The chosen law must involve disasters in some form, whether for facilities or the individual care giver.)

3. Provide a summary of that law in your own words.

4. Do you ***support or oppose the law & why?***

5. How do you suppose it will affect your own practice?

Your responses should show critical analysis of the topic and, in addition, **must** be supported by evidence from the scholarly literature (*preferably peer-reviewed nursing journals*). Your response must be typed directly into the discussion thread and include citation of sources (in-text and reference list) in APA format. No file can be uploaded.

***Your initial posting should be a maximum of 300 words with at least 2 peer-reviewed journals. Your secondary posting should be a maximum of 200 words with at least 1 peer-reviewed journal.***

**References**

Galvagno, S. M., Thomas, S., Stephens, C., Haut, E.R., Hirshon, J. M., Floccare, D., Pronovost, P. (2013). Helicopter emergency medical services for adults with major trauma. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews*, 2, 5-7. doi:10.1002/14651858.CD009228.pub2

Jayaraman, S., Sethi, D. (2009) Advanced trauma life support training for hospital staff. *Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews*, 2, 11-15. doi:10.1002/14651858.CD004173.pub3

Professional and Occupational Standards. (2013, May). Rules and Regulations. Retrieved from http://www.lsbn.state.la.us/Portals/1/Documents/rules/fullrules.pdf