



June 1, 2017

The Honorable Jeff Merkley
United States Senate
313 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Burr
United States Senate
217 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
United States Senate
709 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Susan Collins
United States Senate
413 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Merkley, Burr, Baldwin, and Collins,

As a coalition of national nursing organizations, the Nursing Community writes to thank you for introducing the Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2017 (S. 1109), which will reauthorize the Nursing Workforce Development programs (authorized under Title VIII of the *Public Health Service Act* [42 U.S.C. 296 et. seq]) through fiscal year 2022. The Nursing Community is committed to improving the health of our nation by collaborating to support the education and practice of Registered Nurses and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses. The Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2017 is a critical investment that modernizes the Title VIII programs so they can continue to develop a workforce that meets the healthcare challenges of tomorrow.

For over fifty years, Title VIII has helped to build the supply and distribution of qualified nurses. These programs bolster nursing education at all levels, increase the number of nurses in the workforce, and provide support to institutions that educate the future nurses to ensure the high demand for nursing care is met. Nurses supported through these programs go on to provide high-quality, evidence-based care to patients in a variety of settings, with a focus on those living in rural and medically underserved communities.

We commend the introduction of the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2017 as it advances the sustainability of America's health by ensuring the programs have a current federal authorization necessary for funding in future fiscal years.

On behalf of the 57 undersigned Nursing Community organizations we look forward to supporting your efforts to see this legislation passed. If the coalition can be of assistance, please contact Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto at smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu or 202-463-6930.

Sincerely,
Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing

American Academy of Nursing
American Assembly for Men in Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Critical-Care Nurses
American Association of Heart Failure Nurses
American Association of Neuroscience Nurses
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists
American Association of Occupational Health Nurses
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Nephrology Nurses Association
American Nurses Association
American Nursing Informatics Association
American Organization of Nurse Executives
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association
American Psychiatric Nurses Association
American Society for Pain Management Nursing
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses
Association for Radiologic and Imaging Nursing
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses
Association of Public Health Nurses
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service
Dermatology Nurses' Association
Emergency Nurses Association
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association
Infusion Nurses Society
International Association of Forensic Nurses
International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses
National American Arab Nurses Association
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners
National Association of Neonatal Nurses
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
National Association of School Nurses
National Black Nurses Association
National Council of State Boards of Nursing
National Gerontological Nursing Association
National League for Nursing
National Nursing Centers Consortium
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs

Oncology Nursing Society
Organization for Associate Degree Nursing
Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association
Public Health Nursing Section, American Public Health Association
Society of Pediatric Nurses
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates