



September 11, 2009

Dear Member of Congress:

On behalf of the 42 undersigned organizations, we extend our gratitude and appreciation for your work to reform our nation's healthcare system. We know this process has been a complex one with many hours spent considering the needs of America's healthcare consumers.

Your passion and dedication to improving the healthcare system is to be commended. The commitment you have shown to ensure the discussions are focused on cost-effectiveness and patient-centered quality care speaks to the heart of the nursing profession's mission. While the conversations are far from over, we offer our encouragement as you continue to negotiate key components of the reform legislation.

As a community, we know you have been inundated with calls and messages from constituents expressing their thoughts on healthcare reform. Therefore, we offer our simple but sincere thank you for tackling an issue that desperately needs attention and our earnest hope that you will call on us when further deliberating content for the healthcare reform legislation— as nurses are involved in every aspect of the delivery system.

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing
American Academy of Nurse Practitioners
American Academy of Nursing
American Association of Colleges of Nursing
American Association of Critical-Care Nurses
American College of Nurse Midwives
American College of Nurse Practitioners
American Nurses Association
American Organization of Nurse Executives
American Psychiatric Nurses Association
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses
Asian American and Pacific Islander Nurses Association
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses

Dermatology Nurses' Association
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association
Infusion Nurses Society
International Society of Nurses in Genetics
National American Arab Nurses Association
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
National Association of Hispanic Nurses
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 Black Nurses Association
National Coalition of Ethnic Minority Nurse Associations
National Nursing Centers Consortium
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
National Student Nurses' Association, Inc.
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs
Oncology Nursing Society
Philippine Nurses Association of America, Inc.
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association
Public Health Nursing Section, American Public Health Association
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society