



May 8, 2017

Dear Members of Congress and dedicated staff,

On behalf of the 63 undersigned organizations comprising the Nursing Community coalition, we would like to express our commitment to the health of the nation as we celebrate National Nurses Week. The Nursing Community, the largest coalition representing nursing constituencies in America, aims to ensure that high-quality nursing services are accessible to individuals across all care settings and in every corner of the country. Through consensus building, our members come together to support policies that help to create a sustainable healthcare system for the long-term.

Celebrated annually May 6-12, National Nurses Week recognizes the contributions of the largest segment of the healthcare workforce: registered nurses. By providing direct patient care, advancing the foundation of nursing through research, serving as faculty to educate future nurses, or charting a new path for models of care, the impact of nurses can be felt nationwide.

This year's theme is *Nursing: The Balance of Mind, Body, and Spirit*. Healthy living is essential for maintaining prosperous and vibrant communities throughout our country. The coalition believes prevention, wellness, treatment, and health promotion across the continuum leads to a healthy nation today and in the future. This requires a focus on the science of nursing, the compassion of providers, and a focus on the whole person. These are the underpinnings of a nurse's education and continue into their practice. From precision health initiatives to behavioral health research, nurses are leading the way in discoveries that amplify innovations in care delivery with a lens toward cost-savings and quality.

As you continue your work to ensure the health of the nation, we look forward to working with you to achieve that end. We would like to thank you for your support of our profession and for recognizing America's nurses. If our organization can be of any assistance, please contact Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto, convener of the Nursing Community, at Smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu, or at 202-463-6930, ext. 247.

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 Nurse Assessment Coordination
American Association of Nurse Practitioners

American Association of Occupational Health Nurses
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 Public Health Association, Public Health Nursing Section
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 Veterans Affairs Nurse Anesthetists
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service
Dermatology Nurses' Association
Developmental Disabilities 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 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 Association of School Nurses
National Black Nurses Association
National Council of State Boards of Nursing
National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers
National Gerontological Nursing Association
National League for Nursing
National Nurse-Led Care 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
Society of Pediatric Nurses
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society