

June 9, 2025

The Honorable Joe Courtney 2449 Rayburn House Office Building United States House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515 The Honorable Tammy Baldwin 141 Hart Senate Office Building United States Senate Washington, DC 20510

Dear Congressman Courtney and Senator Baldwin:

On behalf of the 54 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) we thank you for introducing the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (H.R.2531/S.1232) and strongly urge passage of this important legislation this Congress. The NCC is a cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the nursing profession representing Registered Nurses (RNs), Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), nurse leaders, boards of nursing, students, faculty, and researchers. Our dedicated nursing workforce deserves to feel safe in all settings, and this legislation is an important first step.

Nurses and health care practitioners are among the professions with the highest rates of workplace violence. In 2021-2022, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics found that 72.8% of all nonfatal workplace incidents due to violence were among health care workers. In fact, those working in health care and social services are far more likely to suffer workplace violence than other professions. This is a growing concern for our current and future nurses, especially at a time when the health care delivery system is already under extreme stress to meet the nation's demands. Currently, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) have longstanding voluntary guidance. However, that is not solving the problem. This bipartisan and bicameral bill would work to specifically address the startling realities of workplace violence by directing OSHA to put forth enforceable safety standards.

Addressing workplace violence, especially for our nation's nurses and APRNs who remain on the frontlines of health care delivery in this country, is imperative. We commend you for introducing the Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (H.R.2531/S.1232) and urge Congress to pass this vital effort so it may be signed into law. If the Nursing Community Coalition can be of any assistance to you or your staff, please do not

¹ APRNs include certified nurse-midwives (CNMs), certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs), clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) and nurse practitioners (NPs).

² U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (October 2024). Fact Sheet, Workplace Violence in Healthcare, 2021-2022. Retrieved from: https://www.bls.gov/iif/factsheets/workplace-violence-2021-2022.htm
³ Ibid

hesitate to contact the coalition's Executive Director, Rachel Minahan, at rstevenson@thenursingcommunity.org.

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses

Academy of Neonatal Nursing

American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing

Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses

American Academy of Emergency Nurse Practitioners

American Academy of 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 Anesthesiology

American Association of Nurse Practitioners

American Association of Occupational Health Nurses

American Association of Post-Acute Care Nursing

American College of Nurse-Midwives

American Nephrology Nurses Association

American 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 of Community Health Nursing Educators

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

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 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 Council of State Boards of Nursing

National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers

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
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association
Society of Pediatric Nurses
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates
Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurses Society