



August 19, 2025

The Honorable Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable John Thune
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries
House Minority Leader
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles E. Schumer
Senate Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Speaker Johnson, Leader Thune, Leader Schumer, and Leader Jeffries,

On behalf of 62 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC), we urge Congress to cosponsor and advance bipartisan legislation that positively impacts our current and future nurses, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs),¹ nurse leaders, boards of nursing, faculty, and scientists. The NCC represents a cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within nursing. As the largest segment of the health care profession,² and as the most trusted profession,³ Congress' support of the nursing workforce is crucial to ensuring that patients have access to high quality and timely care.

Specifically, we ask that you advance the following bipartisan legislative priorities that directly impact nursing education, workforce, and research:

- **Provide maximum federal funding for all Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs and the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) in fiscal year (FY) 2026. This funding should be, at a minimum, consistent with the allocations outlined in the bipartisan FY 2026 Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill passed by the Senate Appropriations Committee, which includes:**
 - **At least \$303.472 million for Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.]).** As the largest dedicated federal funding for nurses, the Title VIII Programs are

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

² Smith, Sean and Blank, Andrew. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (June 2023) Healthcare Occupations: Characteristics of the Employed. Slide Two: Employment in the 25 largest healthcare occupations, 2022. Retrieved from: <https://www.bls.gov/spotlight/2023/healthcare-occupations-in-2022/>

³ Gallup. (January 2025) Americans' Ratings of U.S. Professions Stay Historically Low. Retrieved from: <https://news.gallup.com/poll/655106/americans-ratings-professions-stay-historically-low.aspx>

smart investments that bolster and sustain the nation's nursing pipeline by addressing all aspects of nursing workforce demand. This funding supports:

- Those studying to become our nation's APRNs, nurse educators, administrators, public health nurses, and other nurses requiring a master's or doctoral degree.
 - Bridge programs, accelerated nursing degree programs, and other activities that help bolster recruitment and retention of students into the nursing profession.
 - Schools of nursing, academic health centers, nurse-managed health clinics, state and local governments, and healthcare facilities as they meet shifting demands in health care through innovative programs.
 - Scholarships and loan repayment for nursing students and nurses entering practice where healthcare facilities have a critical shortage of nurses.
 - Graduate students committed to serving as faculty members to educate the next generation of nurses.
- **At least \$197.693 million for NINR:** As the only institute or center at NIH that directly supports research by nurse scientists, NINR promotes patient-centered care across the life continuum. NINR's scientists and researchers have made groundbreaking, lifesaving discoveries in the areas of prevention and care for low birthweight in infants,⁴ symptom management for those with Alzheimer's,⁵ and reducing pressure sores through the development of the Braden Scale.⁶ The translational research by our nation's nurses and scientists throughout NIH and at NINR is essential to developing new evidence-based practices to care for all patients. Nurse researchers and scientists bring a unique perspective as they continue their work at the forefront of disease prevention, patient care, and recovery.

Committees of Jurisdiction: House and Senate Appropriations Committees.

- **Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2025 (S.1874/H.R.3593):** Reauthorizes these vital nursing workforce programs at current funding levels so we can continue to bolster nursing education, support institutions that educate future nurses, and help recruit and retain the nursing workforce. This bipartisan reauthorization is essential to ensuring these programs remain and demand for nursing care is met throughout the nation.

Committees of Jurisdiction: House Energy and Commerce Committee, Senate Health Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee.

- **Providing Real-world Education and Clinical Experience by Precepting Tomorrow's (PRECEPT) Nurses Act (S.131/H.R.392):** Supports clinical education by providing a \$2000 tax credit to those who serve at least 200 hours as a clinical preceptor to nursing

⁴ Cantelon, P. L. (2010, September). National Institute of Nursing Research, NINR, Bringing Science to Life. Page 87-88. Retrieved from: https://www.ninr.nih.gov/sites/default/files/NINR_History_Book_508.pdf

⁵ Ibid., 180-185

⁶ The National Institute of Nursing Research, Changing Practice, Changing Lives: 10 Landmark Nursing Research Studies. Retrieved from: <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/GOVPUB-HE20-PURL-gpo29659/pdf/GOVPUB-HE20-PURL-gpo29659.pdf>

students, advanced practice nursing students, or newly hired licensed nurses, with specific emphasis on those in a Health Professional Shortage Area.

Committees of Jurisdiction: House Ways and Means Committee, Senate Finance Committee.

- **Improving Care and Access to Nurses (I CAN) Act (S.575/H.R.1317):** Removes outdated barriers in the Medicare and Medicaid programs that currently prevent APRNs from practicing to the full extent of their education and clinical training.
Committees of Jurisdiction: House Energy and Commerce and House Ways and Means Committees, Senate Finance Committee.
- **Nurse Corps Tax Parity Act of 2025 (S.1548/H.R.3145):** Creates tax parity for Nurse Corps. Unlike other programs, such as the National Health Service Corps (NHSC), the Nurse Corps is subject to federal taxes. This bipartisan legislation would create parity among these vital federal programs.
Committees of Jurisdiction: House Ways and Means Committee, Senate Finance Committee.
- **Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act (S.1232/H.R.2531):** Works to specifically address the startling realities of workplace violence by directing OSHA to put forth enforceable safety standards.
Committees of Jurisdiction: House Education and the Workforce, House Energy and Commerce, and House Ways and Means Committees, Senate Health Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee.
- **Improving Access to Workers' Compensation for Injured Federal Workers Act (H.R.3170):** Retires outdated barriers in the Federal Employee's Compensation Act (FECA) that limit the ability of NPs to diagnose and oversee the care and treatment of federal employees who are injured or become ill in the course of their employment.
Committee of Jurisdiction: House Education and Workforce Committee.
- **Ensuring Veterans Timely Access to Anesthesia Care Act (H.R.2234):** Removes unnecessary barriers to care within the Veterans Health Administration (VHA), increasing access to care, decreasing wait times, lowering costs, and maintaining the highest level of care for veterans.
Committee of Jurisdiction: House Veterans' Affairs Committee.
- **National Nursing Workforce Center Act of 2025 (S.1482):** Creates a pilot program to help establish or expand state-based nursing workforce centers and requires the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) to establish a center focused on nursing.
Committee of Jurisdiction: Senate Health Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee.
- **Midwives for Maximizing Optimal Maternity Services (MOMS) Act (S.1599):** Supports the establishment or expansion of accredited midwifery programs at institutions of higher education and nursing schools.
Committee of Jurisdiction: Senate Health Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee.

Comprised of nearly five million licensed RNs, APRNs, and nursing students, the profession embodies the drive and passion needed to ensure the health of patients, families, and our country continues to improve.⁷ Supporting the current and future nursing workforce is essential, especially given their impact on the healthcare system and to the public health of our nation, especially in rural and underserved areas. Therefore, we urge you to support, cosponsor, and advance these bills this Congress. If our organizations can be of any assistance or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the coalition's Executive Director, Rachel Minahan, at rstevenson@thenursingcommunity.org.

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses
Academy of Neonatal Nursing
Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing
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 Nursing Informatics Association
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association, Inc.
American Public Health Association, Public Health Nursing Section
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 Veterans Affairs Nurse Anesthetists
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service

⁷ National Council of State Boards of Nursing. (2025). Active RN Licenses: A profile of nursing licensure in the U.S. Retrieved from: <https://www.ncsbn.org/nursing-regulation/national-nursing-database/licensure-statistics/active-rn-licenses.page>

Dermatology Nurses' Association
Emergency Nurses Association
Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research
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 Black Nurses Association
National Council of State Boards of Nursing
National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers
National Hartford Center of Gerontological Nursing Excellence
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
Wound, Ostomy, and Continence Nurses Society

CC: All members of the U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate