

AACN's

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## AACN Begins Work with the 115th Congress

As members of the United States Senate and the House of Representatives were sworn in to office on January 3, [AACN leadership joined](#) federal legislators as they celebrated the commencement of the 115th Congress. AACN Board Chair, Dr. Juliann Sebastian, and Chair-Elect, Dr. Ann Cary, were a [visible presence for academic nursing](#), meeting with **44 legislators**, including those in Congressional leadership positions from both major parties. Welcoming the new Congress presents an ideal opportunity for AACN to educate freshman members, those returning, and the incoming Trump Administration on the important lens that academic nursing provides to transform national policy.



AACN sent a letter to all 535 members of the [House](#) and [Senate](#) detailing how the Association is a significant and trusted resource on issues surrounding workforce, higher education, research, and care delivery models – the focus of AACN's policy portfolio. The message sent to Congress shares our interest in working with their offices to advance policies that improve health and health care.

In the coming weeks, we will send letters to the committees of jurisdiction to remind their leaders that AACN can provide expertise and testimony on topics of significance in health care. Near the end of January, AACN's Board will finalize its upcoming Federal Policy Agenda in time for the incoming Trump Administration. We will be updating our members on our progress and appreciate your support of our efforts to have a larger footprint in national policy.



To view additional photos of AACN's leadership on the Hill as well as AACN's letters to the new Congress and transition team, [visit AACN's webpage](#).



## Senate Budget Committee Releases FY 2017 Budget Resolution

On January 3, the Senate Budget Committee published its resolution for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017. The Senate will continue to debate the measure and are expected to vote on it next week. The House is expected to consider the measure next. The proposal calls for reducing the federal deficit by one billion dollars over the next ten years and sets the tone for repealing the Affordable Care Act. Read the [full text](#) of the resolution. AACN will continue to monitor closely and keep its membership apprised.



## Learn from Policy Experts at AACN's Student Policy Summit

Registration spots are still available for the next [Student Policy Summit](#) (March 19-21, 2017). The Summit, open to baccalaureate and graduate nursing students from AACN member schools, offers attendees a three-day experience to learn from nursing and healthcare's leading policy experts in Washington, D.C. The Summit culminates in organized meetings with Members of Congress to discuss healthcare policy in the 115th Congress. Find more information on the program [here](#). Sponsorship opportunities for the 2017 Student Policy Summit are [available](#).