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Your Inside Track to Federal Policy



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AACN Shares with Congressional Committees Our Areas of Expertise for Potential Collaboration in the 115th Congress

On February 8, AACN Board Chair Dr. Juliann Sebastian, and President and Chief Executive Officer Dr. Deborah Trautman, [sent letters](#) to eight committees of jurisdiction in the House and Senate outlining policy priorities relevant to each committee and how they align with AACN's Federal Policy Agenda. AACN stands ready to work with committee leadership to advance health and healthcare. [Learn more](#) about AACN's outreach to the 115th Congress and Trump Administration.



AACN Applauds Bi-partisan Introduction of Bill to Reauthorize Title VIII Programs

On February 7, the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2017 ([H.R. 959](#)) was introduced by Representatives David Joyce (R-OH), Tulsi Gabbard (D-HI), Doris Matsui (D-CA), Rodney Davis (R-IL), Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), Patrick Meehan (R-PA), and Kathy Castor (D-FL). The legislation would reauthorize the Nursing Workforce Development programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act) through 2022, providing essential funding for nursing schools, faculty, and students to promote the health of the nation. Read AACN's press release [here](#).



NINR Director's Lecture "Nursing's Impact on Patient Outcomes"

The National Institute of Nursing Research Director's Lecture: "[Nursing's Impact on Patient Outcomes](#)" will take place on Thursday, March 2, from 11:00am-12:00pm ET at the National Institutes of Health campus in Bethesda, Maryland. Dr. Linda Aiken, the Claire Fagin Leadership Professor of Nursing, Professor of Sociology, and Director of the Center for Health Outcomes and Policy Research at the University of Pennsylvania, will describe her program of research which shows that nurses with higher levels of education, fewer patients to care for, and improved working environments have better patient outcomes. [Click here](#) to register.



Betsy DeVos Confirmed as Secretary of Department of Education

On February 7, the U.S. Senate voted 51-50 to confirm Betsy DeVos as Secretary of the Department of Education. Vice President Mike Pence cast an unprecedented tie-breaking vote in the affirmative. DeVos has stated she would expand voucher programs and charter schools if appointed.



Graduate Nursing Policy Questionnaire

In an effort to improve the state of policy education at the graduate level and better understand the current level of health policy and advocacy training among graduate nursing students, the 2016 Faculty Intensive Cohort with AACN asks for your participation in a [brief survey](#) about the delivery of your health policy education. The results of this anonymous survey will be reported in aggregate by program level. We invite you to share this survey with graduate nursing students by directing them to them to: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/nursinghealthpolicy>.