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President Trump Addresses a Joint Session of Congress: Health Care and Education Emerge as Core Policy Issues



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Last night, in his first address to Congress, President Trump called on Congress to advance core policy issues on a host of pressing national concerns. Specifically, in relation to discussions concerning health reform, he highlighted the need to continue the acceptance of pre-existing conditions in relation to coverage; to allow tax credits and health saving accounts; to allow states flexibility with Medicaid funds; and to create a Competitive National Insurance marketplace.

Education was also directly addressed in the President's remarks, and he called upon Congress to pass legislation that focuses on school choice. AACN has [sent letters](#) to the Trump Administration and Congress pledging to collaborate and be a resource as details of healthcare and education reform are examined.

Read the [full text](#) of the speech.

AACN Commends the Introduction of Home Health Care Planning Improvement Act



On February 27, Senators Susan Collins (R-ME) and Ben Cardin (D-MD) reintroduced the Home Health Care Planning Improvement Act ([S. 445](#)) in the 115th Congress. The bill would allow nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, certified nurse midwives, as well as physician assistants to certify home health services, ultimately removing barriers to ensure Medicare patients have timely access. AACN has supported this legislation in previous Congresses and recognizes that this common sense solution would make a significant impact, particularly in communities struggling with access to care.

Read Senator Collins' [floor remarks](#).

Read Senator Cardin's [press release](#).

Student Policy Summit to Welcome 200 Students to Washington, DC



The 2017 [Student Policy Summit](#) (March 19-21) has reached maximum capacity at 200 registered students from 94 schools across 38 states and the District of Columbia. To prepare Summit attendees for their time in our nation's capital, AACN will offer the second of two informational webinars, "Preparing for a Successful Student Policy Summit," on March 2 at 2:00pm (EST). AACN's Director of Government Affairs Lauren Inouye will focus on professional and logistical aspects that will help ensure students maximize their Summit experience. The webinar is open to all AACN members. Click [here to register](#) for the webinar.