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Your Inside Track to Federal Policy



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Linda McConnell to Address Future Policy Leaders at AACN's Student Policy Summit



On March 19, [Linda McConnell](#), MSN, Chief Nursing Officer of the Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs, will serve as the Keynote Speaker for AACN's 2017 Student Policy Summit. The Summit, which will convene 200 nursing students representing 94 schools across 38 states and the District of Columbia, is a three-day conference in our nation's capital, focused on engaging attendees in the federal policy and legislative spheres. Ms. McConnell will share her inspiring insights on how nurses can make meaningful change in healthcare policies that improve the health of the nation. She will set the tone for an empowering and energetic Summit during a time of healthcare transformation. For more information about the Student Policy Summit, [click here](#).

AACN's Testimony to House Appropriators Emphasizes Investments in Nursing Education, Research, and Practice



On March 8, AACN submitted testimony to the House Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations Subcommittee urging investments in the following federal programs for Fiscal Year (FY) 2018:

- *Nursing Workforce Development Programs*—AACN and the Nursing Community coalition are requesting \$244 million to ensure a highly-educated nursing pipeline.
- *National Institute of Nursing Research*—AACN and the Nursing Community coalition are requesting \$160 million to support the innovations of nurse scientists that drive evidence-based practice.
- *National Health Service Corps*—AACN and the Friends of the National Health Service Corps are requesting \$380 million to ensure that clinicians (including Advanced Practice Registered Nurses) are serving in regions experiencing the highest demands for health services.

AACN will keep you apprised as the appropriations process for FY 2018 continues to unfold. Read testimony by AACN and the Nursing Community coalition, of which AACN is a member, by visiting [AACN's Appropriations Advocacy](#).

AACN Sends a Letter to New CMS Administrator Seema Verma



On March 13, the Senate voted 55 to 43 to confirm Seema Verma, MPH, as the Administrator of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). AACN's leadership sent a letter to congratulate Ms. Verma and express a willingness to coordinate on initiatives that support Medicare and Medicaid beneficiaries. AACN highlighted its Federal Policy Agenda and core values that will be important to her work as she heads this agency.

NINR's Intramural Research Program to Host Scientific Symposium



The NINR Intramural Research Program invites you to attend its scientific symposium, *Symptom Science Research: A Path to Precision Health*, on April 25. The symposium will highlight NINR Intramural's fellows and trainees along with scientific advances and collaborations across the National Institutes of Health and other organizations. [Click here](#) for additional details and to register for this event.