

# AACN's WASHINGTON WEEKLY

Your Inside Track to Federal Policy

November 14 2018



## The Final Countdown: Urge Your Senators to Pass Title VIII Reauthorization Today!

As Congress reconvenes this week, Senators have a limited amount of time to pass Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization before the end of the year. Your voice is needed now more than ever! Let your Senators know how essential these Title VIII Nursing Workforce programs are to you, your university/school, your students, the nursing profession, our patients, and our communities. Click [HERE](#) to email your Senators TODAY, urging them to SUPPORT passage of Title VIII Reauthorization this Congress.



## AACN Attends HHS Secretary's Roundtable on Non-physician Providers

On November 8, AACN was invited to attend a roundtable at the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) with Secretary Alex Azar. The discussion gave AACN, along with other health professional organizations, the opportunity to engage in open dialogue on addressing current federal barriers to education and practice. AACN promotes provider-neutral language in all regulatory processes. Further, AACN supports expanding the definition of "teaching physician" to "teaching clinician" in all regulatory language. This would allow all health professionals to precept their students without re-documentation, which is in accordance with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid initiative "Patients over Paperwork." Read AACN's public comments to HHS [here](#).



## DOJ Announced Strategic Actions during First National Opioid Summit

On October 25, the Department of Justice (DOJ) hosted its first ever [National Opioid Summit](#) to announce the DOJ's commitment and strategies to combat the opioid crisis. Panelists spoke to the importance of raising public awareness, reversing the stigma of addiction, improving quality and accessibility of mental health and addiction treatment services, and improving health insurance reimbursement for such services. Actions against illegal drug supply, overprescribing of opioid medications, and applying data analytics for investigation and prosecution were also discussed during the summit. A comprehensive strategy, according to DOJ Opioid Coordinator Mary K. Daly, including enforcement, prevention, and treatment, is necessary to combat this.

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