

AACN's

WASHINGTON WEEKLY

Your Inside Track to Federal Policy



MAY 9, 2018



Presidential Rescission Package Released: Congress on the Clock to Respond

The Trump Administration asked Congress to [rescind \\$15.4 billion](#) in unobligated funding from past years. The action, known as a presidential rescission, requests lawmakers to cancel funds that have already been approved, but have not been spent. Although the rescission amounts to 0.4 percent of the overall budget and will not affect funding included in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018 [P.L. 115-141], unspent Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) funding would be cut by \$7 billion. This may mean reduced funding for nondefense discretionary programs going forward, as Congress has previously used CHIP's unspent money for public health and health research programs in the appropriations process. The rescission freezes the specified funding for 45 days during which Congress must accept or reject the proposed package by a simple majority.



Representative Bonamici Receives AACN Congressional Appreciation Award

On May 2, Oregon deans presented Representative Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR-01) with the AACN Congressional Appreciation Award during an event at Linfield College School of Nursing. Rep. Bonamici, Vice Co-Chair of the House Nursing Caucus, has been a long-standing champion of AACN's major priorities, such as bolstering the nursing workforce and addressing public health crises. The Congresswoman is a current cosponsor of the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act ([H.R. 959](#)) and the Addiction Treatment Access Improvement Act of 2017 ([H.R. 3692](#)). Since 2004, AACN has presented appreciation awards to 30 federal legislators on both sides of the aisle in the House of Representatives and the Senate who demonstrate a strong commitment to advancing education, research, and practice issues on behalf of the nursing profession.



Nursing Community Coalition Turns 10 during National Nurses Week

Although the [Nursing Community](#) was established a number of years prior, it was in 2008 that members of this group began meeting with four Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellows (all nurses) as a way for nursing's collective voice to be heard. These fellows included AACN's current President and CEO Dr. Deborah Trautman, Dr. Nancy Ridenour, Dr. Susan Hinck, and Lupita Slazar Letscher. The conversations launched the coalition's structure as it is today, which now includes 59 national nursing organizational members. These organizations represent the cross section of nursing education, research, practice, and regulation. For ten years, the coalition has advocated to ensure cost-effective, high-quality nursing care is accessible to patients, families, and communities in every corner of the country. Please join us in celebrating this milestone for nursing and follow [@RN_Community](#) for more information on its work.