**House Passes Loan Repayment Bill for SUD Treatment Providers**

Yesterday, the House passed 25 bills to combat the opioid crisis, including **H.R. 5102**, the Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Act of 2018. The bipartisan legislation, introduced by Representatives Katherine Clark (D-MA), Harold Rogers (R-KY), John Sarbanes (D-MD), and Brett Guthrie (R-KY), would authorize a loan repayment program for substance use disorder (SUD) treatment providers, including physicians, nurse practitioners, social workers, and other behavioral health professionals. The bill would help alleviate the opioid epidemic by recruiting and retaining health professionals in communities that are most in need of treatment access. AACN’s Government Affairs Committee voted to support this legislation in April. The association, along with the American Association of Nurse Practitioners, sent a letter in support of H.R. 5102, which would offer qualifying participants up to $250,000 in loan repayments.

In Rep. Clark’s press release, AACN Board Chair Dr. Ann Cary contributed by saying, “AACN is proud to support the Substance Use Disorder Workforce Loan Repayment Act of 2018. On behalf of our 810 member institutions, we thank Representative Clark and original cosponsors, Representatives Rogers, Sarbanes, and Guthrie for the bipartisan effort to see this legislation passed in the House. Our students and faculty are providing care in the communities hit hardest by the opioid epidemic. Education is key in a crisis of this proportion, and our schools of nursing are actively engaged in preparing a nursing workforce to be frontline leaders.” The bill will be taken up in the Senate next.


**AACN’s Featured Webinar – Midterm Campaigns and You**

Following the busiest month for state primary elections—17 primaries in June—AACN will host a webinar on how this year’s midterm elections will potentially impact Congress and shift its legislative priorities in 2019. On July 10, two Washington insiders and legislative experts Robert Daley and Rachel Stevenson will share what the election season may mean for the nation’s healthcare and higher education agenda. They also will discuss effective ways to engage with policymakers during the Congressional August recess and beyond. Register now.

**National Academies Examines Aging and Disability Stereotypes**

In October 2017, the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine, supported by AARP, convened a public workshop on the effect stereotypes have on older adults and individuals with disabilities. Research shows that an individual’s perceptions of aging can influence their own future health outcomes. The resulting publication, *Aging and Disability: Beyond Stereotypes to Inclusion*, summarizes the research presented and discussions held during the workshop. The report can be purchased or downloaded here.