

AACN's

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AACN Welcomes New Director of Government Affairs



We are excited to announce that Rachel Stevenson, MA has joined AACN as the Director of Government Affairs. In her [previous role](#) as Legislative Director at Polsinelli PC, she provided expert advice on a variety of topics including health care and higher education, helping to create successful advocacy strategies. Rachel has experience working both in Congress and on Congressional campaigns, which will bring a wealth of expertise to AACN's advocacy portfolio. Rachel will be the lead staff advancing the Association's federal policy agenda in Congress by working with AACN's Government Affairs Committee, State Grassroots Liaisons, and the University Government Relations Collaborative.

AACN Signs onto Nursing Community Coalition Letter on the Health of Immigrant Children



AACN joined 32 national nursing organizations by signing onto a Nursing Community Coalition [letter](#) sent to Secretary of Department of Homeland Security, Kirstjen Nielsen. The letter expresses concerns, from the nursing perspective, for the health and well-being of immigrant children being separated from their parents at our nation's borders. It is well documented that when children face this sort of adverse conditions, they can develop toxic stress, which may create long-term and detrimental health issues. The letter requests immediate action be taken to end this practice and protect the health of these children. Momentum continues to build in Congress on this issue and reports indicate the Department of Justice, Department of Homeland Security, and the Administration are preparing an executive action to end this practice.

Research Promotes Reducing Restrictive Scope of Practice Rules



Scope of practice laws restricting Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs) and PAs are one of the barriers preventing a cost-effective and productive healthcare sector, [according to a report](#) published on June 13 by Brookings Institution's economic policy initiative, The Hamilton Project. Co-authors E. Kathleen Adams from Emory University and Sara Markowitz from Emory University and National Bureau of Economic Research proposed that a move by policymakers to fully authorize scope of practice for APRNs and PAs would help alleviate the health workforce shortage, reduce healthcare costs, and ultimately, increase patients' access to care.

Sign up for AACN's [webinar](#) "On the Road Again: 2018 Midterm Campaigns and You" being held on July 10th to get a glimpse from two Washington insiders into what the road to election season will bring, and how potential shifts in leadership may impact the national healthcare and higher education agenda.

Want to hear more? Sign up for AACN's [Grassroots Network](#) today!