

AACN's

WASHINGTON WEEKLY

Your Inside Track to Federal Policy

September 26, 2018



All APRNs Included in Conference Opioid Legislation

Last night, the House and Senate released their [conferenced opioid package](#), which includes Section 3201 that would permanently allow NPs and PAs to prescribe Medication-Assisted Treatments (MATs) and gives the other three APRNs (clinical nurse specialists, certified registered nurse anesthetists, and certified nurse-midwives) a five-year authorization to prescribe MATs ([Section 3201, pg. 128](#)). Inclusion of this section was a collaborative effort. **Thank you, AACN members, for sending over 500 messages to Capitol Hill in the past week ensuring that APRNs and PAs are able to prescribe these life-saving treatments.**

Also included in the final opioid package is Section 7071, the Loan Repayment Program for Substance Use Disorder Treatment Workforce ([Section 7071, pg. 348](#)), which would authorize a loan repayment program for substance use disorder treatment providers, including nurses.

While the inclusion of these critical provisions is an enormous step in combating the opioid epidemic, there is still more work to do. Both the House and Senate will have to vote on this compromised legislation before it goes to the President's desk. [Write your Member of Congress Today and urge them to vote YES on this final opioid package.](#)



Dr. Christopher Friese Appointed to PCORI Governing Board

On September 24, the U.S. Government Accountability Office [announced](#) the appointment of [Christopher Friese, PhD, RN, AOCN, FAAN](#), Professor of Nursing at the University of Michigan, as one of seven new members to the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) Governing Board. The newly appointed members will assist PCORI in continuing to fund and evaluate patient-centered research to improve patients' healthcare decisions. Dr. Friese's extensive clinical and research career focused on improving quality of care, as well as his diverse professional leadership experiences, will represent nurses and nursing science at a high level. AACN was honored to nominate Dr. Friese in collaboration with our nursing and healthcare partners.



Join our Informational Call: All of Us Research Program Mini-Grant Awards

AACN announced a [call for applications](#) for the second round of [All of Us Research Program Mini-Grant Awards](#). AACN member schools interested in applying for the mini-grant should join the conference call to learn more about the program and the application process. **This call will occur on Thursday, October 4 at 2:00 pm (EST). Applicants can dial in at 1-866-217-2147 and enter the access code 2317386262.**

AACN schools of nursing and their community partners can receive up to \$25,000 for committing to increase awareness of the need for individuals from underrepresented communities to participate in biomedical research. Applicants must submit applications by Monday, October 15 and grantees will be announced in late October. [Learn more and apply here.](#)

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