



July 12, 2016

The Honorable Jeff Merkley  
United States Senate  
313 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Burr  
United States Senate  
217 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Merkley and Senator Burr:

On behalf of the 51 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community coalition, we write in full support of the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2016, which will reauthorize the Health Resources and Services Administration's Nursing Workforce Development programs (authorized under Title VIII of the *Public Health Service Act* [42 U.S.C. 296 et. seq]) through fiscal year 2021. Collectively, the Nursing Community represents over one million registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, nurse executives, nursing students, faculty, and researchers. The Nursing Community is committed to improving the health and health care of our nation by collaborating to support the education and practice of Registered Nurses and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses. The Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act is a critical investment that will enhance the future of the nursing profession as it continues to provide our nation's patients with the high-quality healthcare services needed for a healthier tomorrow.

For over fifty years, Title VIII has helped to build the supply and distribution of qualified nurses to meet our nation's healthcare needs. These programs bolster nursing education at all levels, increase the number of nurses in the workforce, and provide support for institutions that educate the future nurses who are essential to ensuring the demand for nursing care is met. Nurses supported through these programs go on to provide high-quality, evidence-based practice to patients in a variety of settings, including hospitals, long-term care facilities, community centers, state and local health departments, schools, workplaces, and patient homes.

We want to thank you for introducing this legislation, which will ensure a strong pipeline of nurses today and in the future. The Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act is vital for the sustainability of America's health as it would ensure the Nursing Workforce Development programs have a current federal authorization necessary for funding in future fiscal years and proposes minor technical changes to align the programs with current roles in nursing practice.

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses  
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing  
American Academy of Nursing  
American Assembly for Men in Nursing  
American Association of Colleges of Nursing  
American Association of Critical-Care Nurses

American Association of Heart Failure Nurses  
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists  
American Association of Nurse Assessment Coordination  
American Association of Nurse Practitioners  
American College of Nurse-Midwives  
American Nephrology Nurses Association  
American Nurses Association  
American Organization of Nurse Executives  
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association  
American Psychiatric Nurses Association  
American Society for Pain Management Nursing  
American Society Perianesthesia Nurses  
Association for Radiologic and Imaging Nurses  
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators  
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care  
Association of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology Nurses  
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses  
Association of Public Health Nurses  
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service  
Dermatology Nurses' Association  
Emergency Nurses Association  
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association  
Infusion Nurses Society  
International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses  
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists  
National Association of Neonatal Nurse Practitioners  
National Association of Neonatal Nurses  
National Association of Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health  
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners  
National Black Nurses Association  
National Council of State Boards of Nursing  
National Gerontological Nurses Associations  
National League for Nursing  
National Nurse-Led Centers Consortium  
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties  
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs  
Oncology Nursing Society  
Organization for Associate Degree Nursing  
Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society  
Public Health Nursing Section, American Public Health Association  
Society of Urologic Nurses And Associates  
The Quad-Council of Public Health Nursing Organizations  
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society