



May 8, 2017

Dear Members of Congress and dedicated staff,

On behalf of the 63 undersigned organizations comprising the Nursing Community coalition, we would like to express our commitment to the health of the nation as we celebrate National Nurses Week. The Nursing Community, the largest coalition representing nursing constituencies in America, aims to ensure that high-quality nursing services are accessible to individuals across all care settings and in every corner of the country. Through consensus building, our members come together to support policies that help to create a sustainable healthcare system for the long-term.

Celebrated annually May 6-12, National Nurses Week recognizes the contributions of the largest segment of the healthcare workforce: registered nurses. By providing direct patient care, advancing the foundation of nursing through research, serving as faculty to educate future nurses, or charting a new path for models of care, the impact of nurses can be felt nationwide.

This year's theme is *Nursing: The Balance of Mind, Body, and Spirit*. Healthy living is essential for maintaining prosperous and vibrant communities throughout our country. The coalition believes prevention, wellness, treatment, and health promotion across the continuum leads to a healthy nation today and in the future. This requires a focus on the science of nursing, the compassion of providers, and a focus on the whole person. These are the underpinnings of a nurse's education and continue into their practice. From precision health initiatives to behavioral health research, nurses are leading the way in discoveries that amplify innovations in care delivery with a lens toward cost-savings and quality.

As you continue your work to ensure the health of the nation, we look forward to working with you to achieve that end. We would like to thank you for your support of our profession and for recognizing America's nurses. If our organization can be of any assistance, please contact Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto, convener of the Nursing Community, at [Smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu](mailto:Smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu), or at 202-463-6930, ext. 247.

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 Neuroscience Nurses  
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists  
American Association of Nurse Assessment Coordination  
American Association of Nurse Practitioners

American Association of Occupational Health Nurses  
American College of Nurse-Midwives  
American Nephrology Nurses' Association  
American Nurses Association  
American Nursing Informatics Association  
American Organization of Nurse Executives  
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association  
American Psychiatric Nurses Association  
American Public Health Association, Public Health Nursing Section  
American Society for Pain Management Nursing  
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses  
Association for Radiologic and Imaging Nursing  
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 Veterans Affairs Nurse Anesthetists  
Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses  
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service  
Dermatology Nurses' Association  
Developmental Disabilities Nurses Association  
Emergency Nurses Association  
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association  
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association  
Infusion Nurses Society  
International Association of Forensic Nurses  
International Society of Psychiatric-Mental Health Nurses  
National American Arab Nurses Association  
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists  
National Association of Hispanic Nurses  
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 Association of School Nurses  
National Black Nurses Association  
National Council of State Boards of Nursing  
National Forum of State Nursing Workforce Centers  
National Gerontological Nursing Association  
National League for Nursing  
National Nurse-Led Care Consortium  
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties  
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs  
Oncology Nursing Society

Organization for Associate Degree Nursing  
Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society  
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association  
Society of Pediatric Nurses  
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates  
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society