



June 5, 2019

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 Senators Merkley and Burr:

On behalf of all 62 Nursing Community Coalition (NCC) member organizations, we would like to thank you for your leadership in introducing the Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2019 (S. 1399). As the cross section of education, practice, and research, the NCC supports this bipartisan legislation to reauthorize these essential nursing workforce programs. Representing a profession of more than four million licensed Registered Nurses, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses, nurse executives, nursing students, faculty, and researchers, the NCC embodies the drive and passion to continually improve care for patients, families, and communities across the nation.

S. 1399 is vital to the sustainability of America's health as it would ensure the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs have a current federal authorization necessary for securing funding in future fiscal years. As you are acutely aware, these programs bolster nursing education at all levels, support institutions that educate future nurses, help recruit and retain the nursing workforce, and are essential to ensuring the demand for nursing care is met throughout this nation, especially in rural and underserved areas. Title VIII programs connect patients with care across a variety of settings, including in community health centers, hospitals, universities, long-term care facilities, local and state health departments, schools, workplaces, and patients' homes. The NCC is committed to working with you to improve the health of our nation by supporting Title VIII reauthorization.

Again, we commend the introduction of S. 1399, the Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2019 and appreciate your steadfast commitment to America's nurses and these invaluable nursing workforce programs. If the Nursing Community Coalition can be of any assistance to you or your staff, please do not hesitate to contact the coalition's Executive Director, Rachel Stevenson, at rstevenson@thenursingcommunity.org or 202-463-6930, ext. 271.

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing
American Academy of Emergency Nurse Practitioners
American Academy of 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 Practitioners
American Association of Occupational Health Nurses
American Association of Post-Acute Care Nursing
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Nephrology Nurses Association
American Nurses Association
American Nursing Informatics Association
American Organization for Nursing Leadership
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association, Inc.
American Public Health Association, Public Health Nursing Section
American Psychiatric Nurses Association
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
Chi Eta Phi Sorority, Incorporated
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service
Dermatology Nurses' Association
Emergency Nurses Association
Friends of the National Institute of Nursing Research
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 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 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

CC:

Senator Lamar Alexander
Senator Patty Murray