



ANNA Supports the Future Advancement of Academic Nursing Act (H.R. 851 and S. 246)

The American Nephrology Nurses Association (ANNA) is a nonprofit organization with a membership of over 8,500 registered nurses and other health care professionals at all levels of practice. ANNA members work in settings such as chronic kidney disease management, peritoneal dialysis, hemodialysis, continuous renal replacement therapy, transplantation, industry, and government/regulatory agencies.

The Future Advancement of Academic Nursing (FAAN) Act (H.R. 851 and S. 246) authorizes grants to support schools of nursing in program enhancement and infrastructure modernization, increasing the number of nursing faculty and students. The bill introduced on February 4, 2021 in the House by Rep. Lauren Underwood (D-IL-14) and Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX-30), both nurses, and Senator Merkley (D-OR) in the Senate. ANNA joins with the Nursing Community Coalition in urging Members of Congress to cosponsor the bill.

Overview of the FAAN Act

The legislation authorizes the Administrator of the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), to award grants to schools of nursing for increasing the number of faculty and students in order to enhance the preparedness for public health emergencies or enhance and modernize of their nursing education programs. Schools of nursing located in a medically underserved community or health professional shortage area will receive funding priority. Schools of nursing may receive the grant funding for the following activities:

- Enhancing enrollment and retention of students, with a priority for students from disadvantaged backgrounds including racial or ethnic groups underrepresented in the nursing work force, individuals from rural and underserved areas, low-income individuals, and first generation college students.
- Retaining current faculty and hiring new faculty, with an emphasis on faculty from racial or ethnic groups underrepresented in the nursing workforce.
- Modernizing infrastructure, including audiovisual equipment, personal protective equipment, simulation and augmented reality resources, telehealth technologies, and virtual and physical laboratories.
- Partnering with a health care facility, nurse-managed health clinic, community health center, or other facility that provides health care in order to provide educational opportunities for the purpose of establishing or expanding clinical education.
- Enhancing and expanding nursing programs that prepare nurse researchers and scientists.
- Establishing nurse-led intradisciplinary and interprofessional educational partnerships.