

December 18, 2024

Dear President-Elect Trump and Vice President-Elect Vance:

On behalf of the <u>Nursing Community Coalition (NCC)</u>, which includes 64-member organizations, we look forward to the opportunity to work with and serve as a resource to the Trump-Vance Administration. The NCC represents the cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the nursing profession and believes that the healthcare delivery system should be one that promotes wellness, advances research through scientific discovery, and provides timely access to care across the life continuum. Our organizations include Registered Nurses (RNs), Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs),¹ nurse leaders, boards of nursing, students, faculty, and researchers who are foundational to the health of the nation. As the largest segment of the healthcare profession,² nursing is involved at every point of care, including rural, urban, and underserved areas, is at the frontlines of public health challenges, and is leading the way to ensure today's science translates to tomorrow's cures.

Nurses have, and will continue to play, a significant and vital role in health innovations to enhance care delivery. Without adequate federal funding to support our nation's nurses under Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs (Public Health Service Act 42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.), as well as the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), the support you have previously championed for nurses will be diminished.

Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs: Supporting Our Current and Future Nurses

Administered by the Department of Health and Human Services, Health Resources and Services Administration, the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs help meet the nation's demand for nursing services by addressing all aspects of nursing education, practice, recruitment, and retention. As the largest dedicated funding for nursing, these programs address the needs of rural and underserved communities, where nursing care is critical to improving health. The Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs were last successfully reauthorized during your Administration. We look forward to working with your Administration again to reauthorize these programs and ensure ongoing and robust resource for our current and future nurses throughout the country.

National Institute of Nursing Research: Nurse Researchers and Scientists Leading the Way As one of the 27 Institutes and Centers at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) helps establish the scientific basis for quality patient care. From reducing burdensome chronic illness, addressing social determinants of health, and

¹ APRNs include certified nurse-midwives (CNMs), certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs), clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) and nurse practitioners (NPs).

² Smith, Sean and Blank, Andrew. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (June 2023) Healthcare Occupations: Characteristics of the Employed. Slide Two: Employment in the 25 largest healthcare occupations, 2023. Retrieved from: https://www.bls.gov/spotlight/2023/healthcare-occupations-in-2022/

improving end of life care, NINR is at the forefront of disease prevention, patient care, and recovery. NINR, through the work of our nation's nurse researchers and scientists, is essential to developing new evidence-based practices to care for all patients.

Over the years, the NCC has expanded its policy agenda in many ways. For example, members of the NCC have supported nominations of nursing experts to federal boards, commissions, and taskforces to ensure the breadth of nursing expertise in research, practice, and academia informs sound policy. Together, we strongly encourage your Administration to ensure nurses are part of all these vital healthcare discussions.

With an ever-changing healthcare landscape, the NCC also has focused on issues impacting:

- Nursing Education: Supporting our nursing schools, faculty, and students and strengthening nursing education pathways.
- Removal of barriers patients face when seeking treatment by RNs and APRNs in primary and specialty healthcare, especially in rural areas.
- Workforce supply and demand focused on economic, demographic, and geographic trends to ensure a stronger healthcare system for all.
- Other issues impacting RNs, APRNs, patients, families, and communities across the country.

The contribution of nursing education, nursing regulation, the nursing workforce, and the work of our nurse scientists and researchers remains critical; especially as we address the above issues and work to increase access to high-quality healthcare and promote wellness of the patient and provider.

The unique partnership the NCC has created allows our national nursing organizations to unite on shared priorities and promote America's health through the nursing lens. We stand ready to work with the Trump-Vance Administration as we build a healthier nation. If the Nursing Community Coalition can be of any assistance, please do not hesitate to contact the coalition's Executive Director, Rachel Minahan at rstevenson@thenursingcommunity.org.

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses Academy of Neonatal Nursing Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments 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 Colleges of Nursing American Association of Critical-Care Nurses American Association of Heart Failure Nurses American Association of Neuroscience Nurses American Association of Nurse Anesthesiology 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 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 Hartford Center of Gerontological Nursing Excellence 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