

For over a decade, the Nursing Community Coalition has been a partnership of national professional nursing associations that builds consensus and advocates on a wide spectrum of healthcare issues. Collectively, the Nursing Community is comprised of 58 national nursing organizations that represent the cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the profession. With over four million licensed registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, and nursing students, the profession embodies the drive and passion to continually improve care for patients, families, and communities across the continuum.

The Nursing Community Coalition supports the following core principles:

- A robust and diverse nursing workforce is essential to the health of all Americans.
- Nurses are an integral part of the healthcare team, are involved in every aspect of care delivery, and are committed to the patient, their families, the community, and the nation.
- The contributions made by the practice and science of nursing are critical to the delivery of high quality, life-saving, preventive, and palliative health care across all care settings, geographic areas, and social determinants of health.
- The services RNs and APRNs provide are linked directly to the availability, cost, and quality of healthcare services.
- Affordable, accessible, high-quality health care and improved health outcomes depend upon a model of care that is patient-centered and comprehensive. This can only be achieved through the full complement of expertise gained from broad-based, inter-professional partnerships of physicians, nurses and other health professionals.
- Nursing's involvement is essential to the development of new healthcare information technology infrastructure. Nursing data are key to identifying patient outcomes and required improvements in the delivery of patient care.



To review the efforts of the Nursing Community Coalition, visit: <u>http://www.thenursingcommunity.org</u>.



The Nursing Community Coalition has supported the following pieces of legislation during the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress:

- H.R. 959, S. 1109: Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2017
- S. 445, H.R. 1825: Home Health Care Planning Improvement Act of 2017
- H.R. 3692: Addiction Treatment Access Improvement Act of 2017

The Nursing Community Coalition has submitted testimony to committees on the following issues during the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress:

- House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies to request \$244 million for the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs and \$160 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research for FY 2018.
- Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies to request \$244 million for the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs and \$160 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research for FY 2018.

The Nursing Community Coalition has submitted comments on the following issues since the beginning of the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress:

- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' final rule published on December 14, 2016 (Federal Register Document Number 2016-12338, RIN 2900-AP44) regarding Advanced Practice Registered Nurses' (APRNs) clinical practice within the Veteran's Health Administration.
- U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Draft Strategic Plan for FY 2018 to FY 2022.
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' proposed rule published on October 2, 2017 that would expand telehealth services within the Veteran's Health Administration.

The Nursing Community Coalition has distributed four statements on health reform during the 115<sup>th</sup> Congress.

- January 19, 2017: Letter to Congressional Leadership on Health Reform
- January 27, 2017: Letter to Congressional Leadership Outlining Health Priorities
- February 15, 2017: Letter to HHS Secretary Tom Price on Health Reform
- June 22, 2017: Statement to Senators to Commit to America's Health

The Nursing Community Coalition has hosted events on the following topics:

- Transforming Health and Health Care: Nursing Workforce hosted on May 9, 2017 featured nursing experts who shared insights on how the profession is meeting the healthcare needs of the nation and preparing for future demand.
- Transforming Health and Health Care: Nursing Research hosted on May 11, 2017 featured nursing experts who discussed the contributions of nursing science as it relates to care across the continuum.
- *Future of Nursing: Campaign for Action* cohosted with the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the AARP Foundation on September 20, 2017 featured experts working to implement recommendations from the Institute of Medicine report on the future of nursing.
- The Opioids Crisis: Nursing Practices that Save Lives hosted on December 7, 2017 featured nursing experts who shared insights and offered solutions to the opioids epidemic facing the country.