



May 9, 2016

Dear Members of Congress,

On behalf of the 62 undersigned organizations comprising of the Nursing Community coalition, we would like to express our continued commitment to finding sound policy solutions that improve health and healthcare as we celebrate National Nurses Week. The Nursing Community coalition represents over one million registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, nurse executives, students, faculty, and researchers.

Celebrated annually May 6-12th, Nurses Week is an opportunity to recognize the contributions of the largest segment of the healthcare workforce. Nurses are integral members of the healthcare team who work collaboratively to deliver high-quality and efficient care to America's patients. Whether providing direct patient care, advancing the foundation of nursing practice through research endeavors, serving as faculty to educate our future nurses, or leading new transformations of healthcare delivery, the impact can be felt in every corner of the country.

The theme of this year's Nurses Week is *A Culture of Safety*. Safety is the linchpin that promotes quality care services, and nurses are core to creating, monitoring, and implementing these measures. Vigilance to a culture of safety helps to drive innovation within healthcare delivery and ensures a healthy tomorrow, today.

We would like to thank you for your support of our profession and for recognizing America's nurses. If our organizations can be of any assistance, please contact Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto, convener of the Nursing Community, at Smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu, or 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 Organization of Nurse Executives
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association
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
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 Nursing Centers 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
Public Health Nursing Section, American Public Health Association
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates

The Quad Council of Public Health Nursing Organizations
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society