



July 9, 2026

The Honorable Bill Cassidy
Chairman
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Bernie Sanders
Ranking Member
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions Committee
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Cassidy and Ranking Member Sanders:

On behalf of the 65 undersigned organizations representing the entire Nursing Community Coalition (NCC), we write in strong support of the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2025 (S.1874) and urge its swift consideration and passage out of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee before the August state work period. Representing a profession of more than five million licensed Registered Nurses (RNs),¹ Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs),² nurse leaders, boards of nursing, students, faculty, and researchers, the NCC embodies the drive and passion to continually improve care for patients, families, and communities. Together, we unequivocally support the passage of the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2025 (S.1874) this Congress.

The Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2025 is vital to the sustainability of America's health as it would ensure the 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. This demand for nurses only continues to grow. In fact, projections show that the need for RNs will increase 5% by 2034, including an estimated 189,100 RN openings projected each year, on average.³ In addition, most APRNs are expected to see a 35% increase by 2034, with 32,700 openings projected each year, on average, over the decade.⁴

¹ National Council of State Boards of Nursing. (2026). Active RN Licenses: A profile of nursing licensure in the U.S. Retrieved from: <https://www.ncsbn.org/nursing-regulation/national-nursing-database/licensure-statistics/active-rn-licenses.page>

² APRNs include certified nurse-midwives (CNMs), certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs), clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) and nurse practitioners (NPs).

³ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2026). Occupational Outlook Handbook- Registered Nurses. Retrieved from: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/registered-nurses.htm>

⁴ U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (2026). Occupational Outlook Handbook- Nurse Anesthetists, Nurse Midwives, and Nurse Practitioners. Retrieved from: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/nurse-anesthetists-nurse-midwives-and-nurse-practitioners.htm>

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As the largest dedicated federal funding source for nurses, Title VIII programs offer a strategic and cost-effective approach to supporting the nursing workforce and patients across the country. For instance, in Academic Year (AY) 2022-2023:

- Advanced Nursing Education (ANE) programs supported more than 8,000 students and provided for “over 2 million hours of patient care and nearly 900,000 patient encounters [that] occurred in medically underserved communities.”⁵
- Graduates of Title VIII programs not only advance their education but also work in medically underserved areas. In fact, more than three-quarters of Nurse Corps providers were employed in community-based settings and 20% were in rural communities.⁶
- 74% of Nurse Faculty Loan Program (NFLP) graduates from AY 2021-2022 were in faculty positions one year later, with the majority teaching at the bachelor’s level or higher.⁷
- Programs like Nurse Education, Practice, Quality and Retention (NEPQR) supported over 10,300 nurses and nursing students and help with the development, distribution, and retention of a nursing workforce that can adapt to the population’s changing health care needs.⁸

These examples illustrate the advantage these crucial programs have in recruiting and retaining nurses in the communities they serve. This bipartisan straight reauthorization will continue the important legacy that Title VIII programs have in directly connecting patients with high-quality nursing care in community health centers, hospitals, 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, advancing, and passing S.1874, the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2025, this Congress. If the NCC can be of any assistance to you or your staff, 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 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

⁵ Health Resources and Services Administration. Fiscal Year 2025 Budget Justification. Pages 143-146. Retrieved from: <https://web.archive.org/web/20250308124649/https://www.hrsa.gov/sites/default/files/hrsa/about/budget/budget-justification-fy2025.pdf>

⁶ Ibid, Pages 157-161.

⁷ Ibid, Pages 154-156.

⁸ Ibid, Pages 151-153.

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 Psychiatric Nurses Association
American Public Health Association, Public Health Nursing Section
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
DNPs of Color
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 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
NurseTRUST
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:

Senate Majority Leader John Thune
Senate Minority Leader Charles E. Schumer
Members, Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions