



Senate Committee Advances Bipartisan Legislation Supporting the Nursing Profession and the Health of our Nation

October 31, 2019— The Nursing Community Coalition is proud to see one of our top legislative priorities, [Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act \(S. 1399\)](#), advance out of the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) Committee by unanimous voice vote, and commends the Committee for their bipartisan commitment to nursing education and the nursing workforce. S. 1399 would reauthorize the Nursing Workforce Development Programs (authorized under Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 296 et. seq]) through Fiscal Year 2024 and help meet the nation’s demand for nursing services in all communities, including rural and underserved areas, where nursing care is critical to improving health.

The NCC thanks the Senate HELP Committee, Chairman Lamar Alexander (R-TN), and Ranking Member Patty Murray (D-WA) for their consistent and steadfast efforts to move S. 1399 forward. We commend the sponsor of S. 1399, and Senate Nursing Caucus Co-Chair, Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR), along with the original cosponsor, Senator Richard Burr (R-NC), for their dedication to ensuring high-quality, patient-centered nursing care for all Americans.

Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development Programs help meet our nursing demand by connecting patients with care across a variety of settings, including in community health centers, hospitals, universities, long-term care facilities, local and state health departments, schools, workplaces, and patients’ homes. These programs strengthen nursing education at all levels, sustain institutions that educate future nurses, help recruit and retain the nursing workforce, and are essential to ensuring the demand for nursing care is met.

The NCC looks forward to working with our partners in the Senate to advance and pass Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization this year.

The Nursing Community Coalition includes 62 national nursing organizations that are the cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the profession. Collectively, the coalition represents over one million registered nurses, advanced practice registered nurses, nurse faculty, nurse executives, researchers, and students. The coalition is committed to promoting efforts that advance the health of our nation through nursing care.

Promoting America’s Health Through Nursing Care

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