



Nursing Community Coalition Applauds Bipartisan Senate Effort to Support the Nursing Workforce

May 9, 2019 – On behalf of the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC), a cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the nursing profession, we commend Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR) and Senator Richard Burr (R-NC) for introducing the bipartisan bill, S. 1399, Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act of 2019.

During this National Nurses Week, and every day of the year, the Nursing Community Coalition is committed to improving the health and healthcare of our nation by supporting the education and practice of Registered Nurses (RNs) and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs). The Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act is central to that commitment. It is through these programs that we can continue to educate the next generation of nurses and support the critical health care needs of our nation, including in rural and underserved areas.

As the largest group of health professionals, with more than four million licensed practitioners across the country, nurses are integral members of the healthcare team. 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. S. 1399 is vital for the sustainability of our profession as it would ensure that these essential programs have the federal authorization necessary for future funding and align with current nursing roles and practices.

The Nursing Community Coalition remains committed to passing Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization this year and looks forward to working with our Senate champions on this essential issue impacting the health care of communities throughout the country.

[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 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.