



March 1, 2013

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President,

The 43 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community sincerely thank you for your support of federal nursing and healthcare programs during your first term. The Nursing Community is a forum of 57 national professional nursing associations that builds consensus and advocates on a wide spectrum of nursing and healthcare issues. Our organizations are committed to improving the health and health care of our nation by collaborating to support the education and practice of Registered Nurses (RNs) and Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs). Collectively, the Nursing Community represents nearly one million nurses, nursing students, and nursing faculty.

As you begin your second term and finalize your FY 2014 budget request, we respectfully urge you to continue to prioritize investments in our nation's nursing workforce through the Health Resources and Services Administration's Nursing Workforce Development programs (Title VIII of the *Public Health Service Act*), the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR), and the Nurse-Managed Health Clinics (NMHCs) (Title III of the *Public Health Service Act*). These programs directly support the advancement of nursing education, research, and practice.

Title VIII programs have supported the education and training of America's nurses for nearly 50 years. The growing need for nursing services, in part due to expanded insurance coverage and innovative care delivery initiatives outlined in the *Affordable Care Act* (ACA), requires a nursing workforce that can be sustained in the long-run. Title VIII programs address the full scope of the nursing pipeline by bolstering the number nursing faculty, nursing students, and independently practicing RNs and APRNs. It is imperative, therefore, that investments in these programs are made at levels that reflect the needs of the nursing workforce and, in turn, the needs of America's patients.

High-quality, evidence-based nursing practice requires a solid foundation in nursing science. As one of the 27 institutes and centers comprising the National Institutes of Health, the NINR develops and promotes initiatives that increase quality of life, reduce chronic disease, and improve the preventive practices of Americans across the country. Your support for the NINR is vital in this endeavor.

Lastly, growing emphasis on medically underserved populations necessitates clinical practice sites that can deliver patient-centered care to our most vulnerable communities. NMHCs also serve as training sites for nurses and other health professionals, helping to fulfill the shortage of clinical settings for students. Created through the ACA, support for this program will help meet the need for patient care, clinical training, and interprofessional collaboration.

Thank you again for your continued dedication to the nursing profession. We applaud your efforts and those of your Administration to improve the health and well-being of our nation. If the Nursing Community can be of any service, please do not hesitate to contact its convener, Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto, at SMiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu or 202-463-6930, ext. 247.

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses
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 Nurse Anesthetists
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Nephrology Nurses' Association
American Nurses Association
American Organization of Nurse Executives
American Psychiatric Nurses Association
American Society for Pain Management Nursing
American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses
Association of Community Health Nursing Educators
Association of Nurses in AIDS Care
Association of periOperative Registered Nurses
Association of Public Health Nurses
Association of Rehabilitation Nurses
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
Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association
Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association
Infusion Nurses Society
International Association of Forensic Nurses
International Nurses Society on Addictions
International Society of Psychiatric Nursing
National American Arab Nurses Association
National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists
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 Gerontological Nursing Association
National Nursing Centers Consortium
National Organization for Associate Degree Nursing
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs
Oncology Nursing Society
Preventive Cardiovascular Nurses Association
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society