August 23, 2022

The Honorable Adam Smith  The Honorable Jack Reed
Chairman  Chairman
House Committee on Armed Services  Senate Committee on Armed Services
2216 Rayburn House Office Building  228 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20515  Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mike Rogers  The Honorable James Inhofe
Ranking Member  Ranking Member
House Committee on Armed Services  Senate Committee on Armed Services
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Washington, DC 20515  Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairmen Smith and Reed and Ranking Members Rogers and Inhofe:

On behalf of the 58 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC), and as the Senate begins to look ahead to the Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) (H.R. 7900/S. 4543) conference negotiations, we urge you to include recognition for the United States Cadet Nurse Corps in any final bill. Specifically, we would like you to retain Sec. 5103 - Sense of Congress regarding women who served as cadet nurses during World War II, which was included in the House-passed NDAA.

From 1943 to 1948, nearly 120,000 nurses answered the call by honorably caring for servicemen and women during World War II. These nurses helped shape the foundation of the profession and should be recognized for their invaluable service. The NCC commends the commitment and efforts to include an amendment in the NDAA that honors these heroic women as one valuable way to commemorate their lasting legacy.

The NCC is a cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the nursing profession, representing Registered Nurses (RNs), Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs),1 nurse leaders, students, faculty, and researchers. Together, we urge the passage of this amendment as part of a broader NDAA package. By including this strongly supported bipartisan amendment in the FY 2023 NDAA, Congress will rightfully recognize the nurses who served as members of the United States Cadet Nurse Corps.

1 APRNs include certified nurse-midwives (CNMs), certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs), clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) and nurse practitioners (NPs).
The NCC strongly urges the retention of Sec. 5103 - Sense of Congress regarding women who served as cadet nurses during World War II in the final FY 2023 NDAA conference agreement, which helps honor the contributions the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps made to the war efforts and recognizes these servicewomen for their dedication to our nation. If our organizations can be of any assistance, or if you have any questions, please contact the Nursing Community Coalition’s Executive Director, Rachel Stevenson, at rstevenson@thenursingcommunity.org or at 202-463-6930, ext. 271.

Sincerely,
Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses
Academy of Neonatal Nursing
American Academy of Ambulatory Care Nursing
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 Post-Acute Care Nursing
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Nephrology Nurses Association
American Nurses Association
American Nurses Association
American Nursing Informatics Association
American Organization for Nursing Leadership
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association, Inc.
American Public Health Association, Public Health Nursing Section
American Psychiatric Nurses Association
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
Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service
Dermatology Nurses’ Association
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 Association of Forensic Nurses
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 Hartford Center of Gerontological Nursing Excellence
National League for Nursing
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
National Nurse-Led Care Consortium
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs
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:
Chairman Jon Tester, Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs
Ranking Member Jerry Moran, Senate Committee on Veterans’ Affairs
Chairman Mark Takano, House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs
Ranking Member Mike Bost, House Committee on Veterans’ Affairs
Senator Elizabeth Warren
Representative Cheri Bustos