



May 28, 2025

The Honorable Jeff Merkley  
531 Hart Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Roger Wicker  
425 Russell Senate Office Building  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dave Joyce  
2065 Rayburn House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Suzanne Bonamici  
2231 Rayburn House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Jen Kiggans  
152 Cannon House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Lauren Underwood  
2228 Rayburn House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Merkley, Senator Wicker, Congressman Joyce, Congresswoman Bonamici, Congresswoman Kiggans, and Congresswoman Underwood:

On behalf of 64 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community Coalition (NCC), we commend you, as leaders of the Senate and House Nursing Caucuses, for introducing S.Res.206 and H.Res.389, honoring and recognizing May 6 through 12, 2025 as National Nurses Week. These bipartisan resolutions underscore the indispensable care the more than four and a half million Registered Nurses (RNs)<sup>1</sup>, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs)<sup>2</sup>, nurse leaders, nursing students, faculty, researchers, and other nurses with advanced degrees, provide to patients across the country.

The NCC is a cross section of education, practice, research, and regulation within the nursing profession and recognizes how vital our nursing workforce is to the health of our nation. As the largest segment of the health care profession,<sup>3</sup> nursing is involved at every point of care across a variety of settings, including in community health centers, hospitals, long-term care facilities, local and state health departments, schools, workplaces, and patients' homes. From researchers

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<sup>1</sup> National Council of State Boards of Nursing. (2025). Active RN Licenses: A Profile of Nursing Licensure in the U.S. Retrieved from: <https://www.ncsbn.org/active-rn-licenses>

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

<sup>3</sup> Smith, Sean and Blank, Andrew. U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics. (June 2023) Healthcare Occupations: Characteristics of the Employed. Slide Two: Employment in the 25 largest healthcare occupations, 2022. Retrieved from: <https://www.bls.gov/spotlight/2023/healthcare-occupations-in-2022/>

translating today's science into tomorrow's cures to frontline providers at the patient's bedside, these resolutions highlight all the ways nurses support our communities, not only during National Nurses Week, but throughout the year.

We deeply appreciate your recognition of how vital our nursing students, nurses, and APRNs are to the fabric of America's health care system. As we work to provide substantial federal investment for nursing education, practice, and research, and address the pressing policy issues facing our country, we look forward to working with you as we continue to support our current and future nurses. If the Nursing Community Coalition 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](mailto: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  
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 Public Health Association, Public Health Nursing Section  
American Psychiatric Nurses Association  
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  
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 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  
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:

Senator John Barrasso  
Senator Marsha Blackburn  
Senator Richard Blumenthal  
Senator Cory Booker  
Senator Shelley Moore Capito  
Senator Kevin Cramer  
Senator Steve Daines  
Senator Chuck Grassley  
Senator James C. Justice  
Senator Alex Padilla  
Senator Gary Peters  
Senator Jim Risch  
Senator Jeanne Shaheen  
Senator Elizabeth Warren  
Senator Peter Welch  
Senator Thom Tillis