

# Association of Community Health Nursing Educators

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## Initiatives Supported in 2014

### [NC Sent Letter to House Supporting VHA Modification](#)

*February 5, 2014*

The Nursing Community sent a letter urging Representatives not to sign a Dear Colleague letter being circulated by Representatives Michael Grimm (R-NY) and Ann Kirkpatrick (D-AZ) that opposes the Veterans Health Administration's Nursing Handbook modifications that would allow APRNs to serve as full practice providers.

### [NC Thanks RADM Kerry Paige Nessler for Her Service](#)

*February 20, 2014*

The NC sent a letter thanking RADM Nessler for her steadfast dedication to improving America's health during your tenure as the Chief Nurse Officer (CNO) of the United States Public Health Service (USPHS).

### [Welcome to New CNO of the USPHS RADM Sylvia Trent-Adams](#)

*February 20, 2014*

The NC sent a letter welcoming the newly appointed Chief Nurse Officer of the United States Public Health Service (USPHS), Rear Admiral (RADM) Sylvia Trent-Adams.

### [NC Supports H.R. 3833](#)

*March 14, 2014*

On Friday, March 14, the NC sent a letter to Representative Jim McDermott (D-WA) expressing support for H.R. 3833, which would eliminate the new provision in the Affordable Care Act [P.L. 111-148] that requires physicians to document the face to face encounters of nurse practitioners (NPs), clinical nurse specialists (CNSs), and physician assistants (PAs) when ordering certain durable medical equipment for their Medicare patients. By removing this requirement so that NPs, CNSs, and PAs can continue to document their face to face encounters without a physician's signature, this legislation would eliminate an unnecessary, costly, and burdensome barrier facing Medicare patients who need necessary durable medical equipment to insure their safe, lifesaving, and timely care.

### [NC Submits FY2015 Requests and Testimony to House](#)

*March 28, 2014*

On March 28, 2014, the Nursing Community submitted written testimony to the U.S. House Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS-ED) requesting \$251 million for the Health Resources and Services Administration's Nursing Workforce Development programs (authorized under Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.]), \$150 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) within the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and \$20 million in authorized funding for the Nurse-Managed Health Clinics (Title III of the Public Health Service Act). A letter was also sent to Chairman Jack Kingston (R-GA) and Ranking Member Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) of the LHHS-ED Appropriations Subcommittee reinforcing these requests.

### [NC Submits FY2015 Requests to Senate](#)

*April 2, 2014*

On April 2, 2014, the Nursing Community sent a letter to the U.S. Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS-ED) requesting \$251 million for the Health Resources and Services Administration's Nursing Workforce Development programs (authorized under Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.]), \$150 million for the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR) within the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and \$20 million in authorized funding for the Nurse-Managed Health Clinics (Title III of the Public Health Service Act) in FY2015.

### [NC Submits FY2015 Testimony to Senate](#)

*May 6, 2014*

On May 6, 2014, the Nursing Community sent testimony to the U.S. Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies (LHHS-ED) reiterating the FY 2015 requests.

### [NC Supports APRNs in the VHA](#)

*June 4, 2014*

The NC sent a letter to Acting Secretary of Veterans Affairs Sloan D. Gibson reiterating unwavering support for the Veterans Administration's work to modernize the Veterans Health Administration's (VHA) Nursing Handbook. The letter also urged Acting Secretary Gibson to advance the approval process of this modification.

### [Sec. Sebelius Retires](#)

*June 6, 2014*

The NC sent a letter to retiring Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius thanking her for her service.

### [NC Thanks Congressional Champions](#)

*June 12, 2014*

The NC sent letters to Representatives Richard Hanna (R-NY) and Lois Capps (D-CA), as well as Senator Jeff Merkley (D-OR), for their leadership in spearheading the Dear Colleague letters that supported funding for Title VIII in FY 2015. Representatives Lois Capps (D-CA) and Richard Hanna (R-NY) circulated a letter requesting strong support for the Title VIII Nursing Workforce Development programs which garnered 92 signatures. The Senator Merkley letter requested \$251 million and garnered 29 signatures.

### [NC Congratulates Sec. Burwell](#)

*July 24, 2014*

Forty-nine NC organizations signed a letter congratulating newly appointed Secretary of Health and Human Services Sylvia Mathews Burwell.

### [Dr. Donna Gage appointed Chief Nursing Officer for the Veterans Health Administration](#)

*September 12, 2014*

The NC sent a letter congratulating Donna Hart Gage, PhD, RN, NE-BC, on her appointment to Chief Nursing Officer for the Veterans Health Administration at the Department of Veterans Affairs.

### [NC Supports S. 2694](#)

*September 24, 2014*

The NC sent letters to Senators Sherrod Brown (D-OH) and Patty Murray (D-WA) expressing support for the Ensuring Access to Primary Care for Women & Children Act (S. 2694). The legislation would sustain the temporary Medicaid and CHIP payment rate through 2016.

**[NC Supports AHRQ Senior Advisor of Nursing Position](#)**

*October 9, 2014*

The NC sent a letter to AHRQ Director Dr. Richard Kronick expressing support of the continued presence of a nursing leader at AHRQ.

**[Nursing Community Issues Statement on Ebola Virus Disease](#)**

*October 24, 2014*

As a coalition of 61 national nursing organizations, the Nursing Community stands united that the focus on responding to the Ebola Virus Disease in the United States and the devastating outbreak in West Africa must be on patient health and community protection.

**[NC Submits Testimony on Ebola](#)**

*November 7, 2014*

The Nursing Community submitted testimony to the Senate Appropriations Committee regarding the US response to Ebola for a hearing on November 21, 2014.

**[NC Submits Letter Urging Support for Nursing in FY2015](#)**

*November 11, 2014*

The letter urged the House and Senate LHHS-ED Appropriations Subcommittees to fully support the Nursing Workforce Development Programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act [42 U.S.C. 296 et seq.]) and the National Institute of Nursing Research (NINR- one of the 27 Institutes and Centers at the National Institutes of Health) in FY 2015.

**[NC Congratulates Linda Spoonster Schwartz](#)**

*November 20, 2014*

The Nursing Community sent a letter congratulating Dr. Spoonster Schwartz on her confirmation as the Assistant Secretary for Policy and Planning for the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.