



TITLE VIII NURSING WORKFORCE REAUTHORIZATION ACT (H.R. 728 / S. 1399)

The American Nurses Association (ANA) urges you to cosponsor H.R. 728 / S. 1399, the bipartisan and bicameral *Title VIII Nursing Workforce Reauthorization Act*. Both pieces of legislation would reauthorize nursing workforce development programs (Title VIII of the Public Health Service Act) through FY 2024. These programs are invaluable to institutions that educate registered nurses for practice in rural and medically underserved communities.

Title VIII programs bolster nursing education from entry-level preparation through graduate study. According to the Health Resources and Services Administration, between FY 2006 and FY 2012 alone these programs provided loans, scholarships, and programmatic support to over 450,000 nursing students and nurses. For five decades, these programs have helped build the supply and distribution of qualified nurses needed in all health care settings.

The major grant programs within Title VIII include:

- **Advanced Education Nursing**—Provides grants to nursing schools, academic health centers, and other entities to enhance education and practice for nurses in master’s and post-master’s programs. These programs prepare nurse practitioners, clinical nurse specialists, nurse midwives, nurse anesthetists, nurse educators, nurse administrators, and public health nurses.
- **Workforce Diversity Grants**—Provides grants to increase opportunities for individuals who are from disadvantaged backgrounds, including students from economically disadvantaged families, as well as for racial and ethnic minorities underrepresented in the nursing profession.
- **Nurse Education, Practice, and Retention Grants**—Supports schools and nurses at the associate and baccalaureate degree levels. Grants are provided to schools of nursing, academic health centers, nursing centers, state and local governments, and other public and private nonprofit entities. Some grants (such as grants promoting the Magnet® hospital best practices for nursing administration) are also available to health care facilities.
- **National Nurse Service Corps**—The Nurse Education Loan Repayment Program repays 60-85 percent of nursing student loans in return for at least two years of practice in a facility designated as having a critical shortage of nurses. Upon graduation, scholarship recipients work full time for at least two years in a facility designated as having a critical shortage of nurses.
- **Nurse Faculty Loan Program**—Establishes loan programs within schools of nursing to support students pursuing master’s and doctoral degrees. Upon graduation, loan recipients are required to teach at a school of nursing in exchange for cancellation of up to 85 percent of the educational loans, plus interest, over four years.
- **Comprehensive Geriatric Education Grants**—Provides grants to train nurses who provide direct care for the elderly, to support geriatric nursing curriculum, to train faculty in geriatrics, and to provide continuing education to nurses who provide geriatric care.

FACTS AT A

GLANCE

Thank you to the champions in the House and Senate who sponsored this legislation!

H.R. 728: Representatives David Joyce (R-OH), Tulsi Gabbard (D-HI), Rodney Davis (R-IL), Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), Doris Matsui (D-CA), Kathy Castor (D-FL), David McKinley (R-WV), and Lauren Underwood (D-IL).

S. 1399: Senators Jeff Merkley (D-OR) and Richard Burr (R-NC)

Nursing Where It’s Needed (WIN) Act (S. 1045)

The Senate version of the Title VIII reauthorization includes a bonus provision that would amend the Section 846 Loan Repayment Program to allow nurses to serve at any qualifying Critical Shortage Facility. The Nursing WIN Act rightly refocuses the loan repayment program on a community’s need for qualified registered nurses when determining eligible practice sites, eliminating the current exclusion of particular high-need facilities based on tax status.

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