



March 17, 2015

The Honorable Jerry Moran
U.S. Senate
361A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Moran:

On behalf of the 42 undersigned organizations representing the Nursing Community, we thank you for introducing the Protecting Access to Rural Therapy Services (PARTS) Act (S. 257). Collectively, the Nursing Community represents over one million Registered Nurses, Advanced Practice Registered Nurses (APRNs), nurse executives, nursing students, nursing faculty, and nurse researchers. Our organizations are committed to improving the health and health care of our nation by collaborating to support advancements in nursing education and practice. The Nursing Community supports this legislation, which would allow certain outpatient therapeutic and diagnostic services to be provided under general supervision, rather than direct supervision, of a physician or certain non-physician practitioner.

The PARTS Act includes in its definition of “non-physician practitioner” the four APRN roles (nurse practitioner, certified registered nurse anesthetist, certified nurse-midwife, and clinical nurse specialist). The bill supports these clinicians to practice to the full extent of their education and training as defined by state law, as they provide high-quality care to our nation’s rural communities. Moreover, by eliminating the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services current requirement that non-physician providers must be under direct supervision at the time services are furnished, S. 257 helps address healthcare provider shortages and increase the delivery of critical healthcare services to patients in rural settings.

The Nursing Community commends this legislation’s effort to support APRN practice and ensure some of our nation’s most vulnerable patients receive the services they need in a timely manner. If our organizations can be of any assistance, please contact convener of the Nursing Community Dr. Suzanne Miyamoto, at Smiyamoto@aacn.nche.edu or 202-463-6930, ext. 247.

Sincerely,

Academy of Medical-Surgical Nurses
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 Anesthetists
American Association of Occupational Health Nurses
American Association of Nurse Practitioners
American College of Nurse-Midwives
American Nurses Association
American Organization of Nurse Executives
American Pediatric Surgical Nurses Association
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 Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses
Dermatology Nurses' Association
Gerontological Advanced Practice 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 Council of State Boards of Nursing
National Nursing Centers Consortium
National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties
Nurses Organization of Veterans Affairs
Oncology Nursing Society
Organization for Associate Degree Nursing
Pediatric Endocrinology Nursing Society
Public Health Nursing Section, American Public Health Association
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates
Wound, Ostomy and Continence Nurses Society