

June 29, 2015

The Honorable John Boehner
Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives
323 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
204 U.S. Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Speaker and Mrs. Pelosi:

On behalf of the more than 340,000 Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN) members of our organizations, we are pleased to offer our support for HR 6, the “21st Century Cures Act.” We commend the House Energy and Commerce Committee and this Congress for their intense focus on healthcare innovations and infrastructure development in order to accelerate new scientific understanding into treatments and cures. We would like to specifically thank you for the increase in funding to the National Institutes of Health, and that the bill respects all healthcare professionals equally.

Our organizations represent nurse practitioners (NPs) who deliver primary, specialized, and community healthcare; certified registered nurse anesthetists (CRNAs) who provide the full range of anesthesia services as well as chronic pain management; certified nurse-midwives (CNMs) who are experts in primary care, maternal, and women’s health; and clinical nurse specialists (CNSs) offering acute, chronic, specialty, and community healthcare services; as well as APRN students and the faculty who educate them. The more rapidly that healthcare innovations can be developed and safely introduced into the population, the more effectively healthcare professionals such as APRNs can prevent, diagnose, treat and cure disease and suffering and improve life and quality of life. By promoting the development of scientific knowledge at the NIH and advancing its migration into safe and innovative treatments, this legislation also promotes patient access to the needed care.

We thank you for your leadership in this critical effort and look forward to continuing to work with you on these important healthcare issues before Congress. If you have any questions, please contact Frank Purcell, American Association of Nurse Anesthetists Senior Director Federal Government Affairs, at fpurcell@aanadc.com, 202-741-9080.

Sincerely,

American Association of Colleges of Nursing, AACN
American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, AANA
American Association of Nurse Practitioners, AANP
American Nurses Association, ANA

Gerontological Advanced Practice Nurses Association, GAPNA

National Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists, NACNS

National Association for Nurse Practitioners in Women's Health, NPWH

National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners, NAPNAP

National League for Nursing, NLN

National Organization of Nurse Practitioner Faculties, NONPF

CC: Rep. Fred Upton, Chair, House Energy and Commerce Committee
Rep. Frank Pallone, Ranking Member, House Energy and Commerce Committee